FRIDAY
May 23, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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Net FDI slumps 96% in FY25 to $353 million

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SUPER GIANT

Marsh smashes a ton as LSG upstages GT

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ED crossed all limits with raid on T.N. govt. body: SC

CJI raps Central agency for 'violating the federal structure of the country', questions the legality of targeting State-run TASMAC; he asks why ED stepped in despite the T.N. govt. filing multiple FIRs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday orally criticised the Directorate of Enforcement for "crossing all limits" and stayed the investigation conducted by the Central agency following raids on the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation (TASMAC) offices.

"How can a corporation commit an offence? The ED is crossing all limits," Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai said, addressing Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju, who appeared for the Central agency.

"You are totally violating the federal structure of the country," Justice Gavai remarked.

The court was hearing a petition filed by the State of Tamil Nadu and TASMAC against a Madras High Court order in April rejecting a plea to stay the ED investigation and its raids on the corporation.

Under scanner: An ED search at the residence of TASMAC Managing Director in Chennai on May 16. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

'Phones cloned'

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, for TASMAC, claimed that its employees' phones have been cloned. "There is something called privacy," he submitted.

Mr. Sibal, for Tamil Nadu, said the State itself had registered 41 FIRs against liquor outlet operators over corruption allegations.

The ED had entered the scene in 2025 and proceeded to raid TASMAC headquarters to confiscate the phones and devices found there.

"How can a criminal offence be made out against the corporation? You may register FIRs against the individuals, but against the corporation, in a criminal matter?" the CJI asked.

Mr. Raju defended the ED, saying that the investigation involved fraud worth ₹1,000 crore, adding that politicians were involved in the case.

The court queried why the ED had to intervene despite the State having filed multiple FIRs, asking about the predicate offence which had prompted the ED to swoop in.

Mr. Raju sought time to file a detailed response and was given a fortnight.

Befitting reply given to Pakistan, says PM

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

In his first public address since the cessation of India-Pakistan conflict, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said Operation Sindoor, launched by the Indian armed forces, had forced Pakistan and its terror operators into submission. "We have fulfilled our resolve to give them a punishment beyond [their] imagination," Mr. Modi said at a rally in Bikaner district of Rajasthan.

Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack, Mr. Modi said those who had set out to wipe *sindoor* (vermilion) off the forehead of women had been "reduced to dust".

Narendra Modi

"Ma Bharti's servant Modi is standing here with his chest held high. Modi's mind is cool, but Modi's blood runs hot. And now, it is hot *sindoor*, not blood, which is flowing in my veins," he said.

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OPENS 103 AMRIT STATIONS
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Soldier killed in anti-terror operation

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

One soldier was killed in a major anti-terror operation by security forces against a group of terrorists hiding in the Chenab Valley's Kishtwar district on Thursday.

An Army spokesman said that security forces launched Operation Trashi on Thursday morning and established contact with terrorists during a joint operation with the J&K police at Kishtwar's Chhatru. Officials said that security forces and hiding terrorists had exchanged a "heavy volley of bullets".

The Army said that additional troops were inducted and the operation was carried on all day "to neutralise the terrorists".

"During the ongoing operation, a fierce gunfight is continuing. One of our bravehearts sustained grievous injuries in the exchange of fire and has succumbed despite best medical efforts," the Army said. Two to three terrorists are believed to be hiding in the rugged mountain area of Chattru, officials said. The anti-terror operation covers a large forest area between Shari and Mandral Dhok areas.

There was a sudden uptick in attacks and encounters between the security forces and terrorists who were well trained in jungle warfare in 2024. According to the official data, five deaths were reported in Kishtwar in 2024.

NEARBY

Ramanagara to be Bengaluru South dist.

BENGALURU
The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday approved the renaming of neighbouring Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South district.
» PAGE 10

From now, pay to use toilet at 12 metro stations

BENGALURU
Namma Metro commuters will have to shell out money to use the toilets at 12 stations from now on. » Page 4

METROPLUS » PAGE 9

Palace Grounds case: 'Release TDR certificates to ex-royal family'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Karnataka government to release Transferable Development Rights (TDR) certificates of over ₹3,000 crore for 15 acres and 39 *guntas* of Bangalore Palace Grounds acquired for widening the Ballari and Jayamahal roads to the legal heirs of the erstwhile Mysuru royal family.

The judgment was pronounced by a Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Aravind Kumar. The legal heirs, represented by advocate T. Harish Kumar and others, had moved the top court. In February, the court had ordered the State to deposit the TDR certificates while taking a stern view of the government's changing stands on the issue.

The court had at the time referred to the State's move to promulgate the Bangalore Palace (Utilisation and Regulation of Land) Ordinance, 2025, giving itself the right to either acquire the property or not acquire it. The court had interpreted the promulgation of the Ordinance as a signal that the State was effectively dropping road-widening plans rather than part with the TDR worth ₹3,000 crore.

Ordinance

The State had promulgated the Ordinance in January 2025. Through the Ordinance it had reserved to itself the right to not acquire the land situated in the heart of Bengaluru city after the top court passed an order in December last year, directing it to issue the TDR.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 2

Cometh the hour, cometh Bumrah!

Back from an injury-enforced break, the pace ace has worked his magic in the IPL, leaving batters battered and bruised; he has been at the forefront of MI's revival in the 2025 campaign and will need to be at his best as India aims for its first Test series win in England since 2007

R. Kaushik

The result was a foregone conclusion, a place in the final four assured. On strike was a left-handed No. 11 who was only batting in that position because he couldn't come in any lower - he averages 5.93 (with the bat) in 284 T20s.

But watching Jasprit Bumrah thundering in at the Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday night, you wouldn't have guessed any of it. You wouldn't have guessed, for instance, that Delhi Capitals needed 60 for victory off 11 deliveries. You wouldn't have guessed that Mustafizur 'Fizz' Rahman, him with a T20 strike-rate of 72.59, was on strike. You wouldn't have guessed that as far as stakes were concerned, there was nothing left.

Thing is, Bumrah doesn't focus on the batter's pedigree, credentials or reputation. He doesn't get affected by such mundane things as match situations, he certainly doesn't know what it is to take it easy. Bumrah is as much a perfectionist as there can be. To him, only the three stumps that the batter was zealously trying to guard loomed. Talk about narrow focus.

From round the stumps, Bumrah unleashed a thunderbolt, straight and radar-directed, full - yorker, they call it - which zeroed in on and rattled middle stump. More accomplished left-handed batters would have struggled to lay bat to ball. The Fizz? Well, you can imagine...

In his previous over, with the game done and dusted following a magical spell of left-arm spin from Mitchell Santner, Bumrah doled out the perfect two-card trick to a flummoxed, hapless Madhav Tiwari, the 21-year-old from Madhya Pradesh on his IPL debut. A quick short ball that got big on the batter and beat him for pace, the attempted pull lumbering off the splice over mid-wicket for a brace, was the precursor to the slower yorker that dipped wickedly at the last possible instant to strike off-pole.

Big deal, you say? A debutant No. 8 and a No. 11 with no batting aspirations, what's the fuss? Like we said earlier, the fuss doesn't revolve around *who* Bumrah dismissed, but *how*.

Just for good measure, a little earlier in the piece in his second over, he produced a wonderful in-cutter that followed Tristan Stubbs and trapped him plumb in front. Up went the umpire's finger in a flash, and even though the South African appeared a little surprised when his review returned three reds, the end result was never in doubt. Stubbs has been one of the few bright spots for the Capitals, who squandered a four-on-four start to crash out at the first stage. Bumrah's mastery over the young turk alone was worth the admittance money.

Bumrah ended the night, and the match, with three for 12 from 3.2 sublime overs, taking his tally of wickets this IPL season to 16. From nine matches (he missed Mumbai Indians' first four games, recovering as he was from a stress reaction in his lower back). After his heroics, he climbed to sixth in the race for the Purple Cap helmed by Prasidh Krishna of Gujarat Titans. Of the 12 bowlers with 15 or more wickets, his economy of 6.39 is comfortably the best and his strike-rate of 13.25 (balls per wicket) is bettered only by Chennai Super Kings' left-arm wrist spinner Noor Ahmad (13.14), who is conceding more than two runs an over extra (8.41) compared to the loose-limbed, unique champion.

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Back with a bang

Mumbai Indians couldn't have been more delighted at the timing of Bumrah's return to competitive action after more than three months. The back injury prevented the captain for the game from bowling in Australia's second innings of the Sydney Test in early January and by the time he returned to action in the first week of April, the five-time former champions had lost three of their first four games (it would soon become four in five when they went down to Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Bumrah's comeback fixture at the Wankhede).

Notoriously slow starters, MI are now on a searing run, with seven wins in their last eight fixtures. It's hardly coincidental that their change in fortunes has come with Bumrah returning to the fold and the initially misfiring Rohit Sharma hitting his straps simultaneously.

As delighted as MI must be at the form Bumrah has shown, both when it comes to taking wickets and economy-wise, that will be nothing compared with the stakeholders invested in the broader spectrum of Indian cricket, primary among them head coach Gautam Gambhir and chief selector Ajit Agarkar. India are on the cusp of a period of transition in Test cricket. In five months between December and May, they lost three of their stellar, long-serving performers to retirement.

Off-spinner R. Ashwin called it quits after the third Test Down Under in Brisbane, Rohit walked away into the sunset a fortnight back and Virat Kohli announced his retirement on May 12. These are body blows any team will struggle to overcome, not dissimilar to the hole Australian cricket found itself in January 1984 when Greg Chappell, Dennis Lillee and Rod Marsh all retired after the New Year's Sydney Test against Pakistan.

Leadership skills

Even in the presence of these stalwarts, Bumrah would have needed to play a pre-eminent role in India's quest for their first series win in England since 2007. Now, the responsibility on his broad, sturdy shoulders will be that much more. Whether he is named the captain or not (Shubman Gill seems to have emerged as the front-runner to replace Rohit in the hot seat), Bumrah will continue to be a leader - the leader of the pace pack and the bowling group as a whole, yes, but also a leader of the larger unit because leadership is something that comes naturally, effortlessly, organically to the 31-year-old from Ahmedabad.

In the first couple of matches on his comeback in April, there was a little bit of rust - just a little bit - which was understandable. Alongside the knees, the back is a fast bowler's best friend and worst enemy. Bumrah's one-of-a-kind action places greater stress on his back (not that those with even the smoothest actions have it easy otherwise) and, coming back from injury and without any game-time, he must have entertained slight apprehension. But within no time, he was firing on all cylinders, purring like a Rolls Royce even though his stuttering, short-stepped approach to the bowling crease is anything but smooth and free-flowing.

India need Bumrah at full throttle in England, it goes without saying. Preferably, for all five Tests but that's a call that Bumrah will take in conjunction with the next captain (maybe himself, maybe Gill), the head coach and the support staff.

There are reasonable gaps between the first and the second Tests, and then between the third and the fourth, but how much he plays will depend on how much he bowls, under what pressure, and how his back and his body hold up. The best option from an Indian perspective is to keep bowling England out cheaply because that means Bumrah won't be bowling too many overs in an innings, but whether Ben Stokes' men will play the perfect hosts is open to debate.

EMMANUAL YOGINI

There is reasonable depth and no little experience in the Indian pace ranks. Mohammed Shami (the question marks over his efficacy stem from his IPL performances, which ideally shouldn't influence his Test credentials) has been a stalwart since his Test debut in November 2013, Mohammed Siraj is shaping up nicely though he has still to step up as a leader in the Bumrah-Shami absence and Prasidh is bowling as well as he ever has, even if he is just three Tests young. There is potential and promise in the form of Harshit Rana and Mukesh Kumar, Yash Dayal and Arshdeep Singh, the last-named a T20 veteran with 99 wickets internationally in only two and a half years. But Bumrah has to be the spearhead, no matter if Shami rediscovers his mojo and more.

In Australia over the winter, he looked like getting a wicket every time he delivered the ball, and that is no exaggeration. Bumrah had Australia in the palm of his hand, occupying their minds rent-free with his unparalleled command over his craft. Australia have produced some of the greatest pacers of all time, and hosted all-time greats from other countries over the last 150 years or so, but no one has impressed, terrorised and fascinated them more than Bumrah. The man with the hyperextended right elbow gobbled up airtime and reams of newsprint even before his arrival in Australia and more than justified all the hoopla, finishing with 32 wickets from four and a half Tests and the Player of the Series honours.

Dangerous

England have had several tastes of the Bumrah magic, not least in Visakhapatnam last February when he destroyed them with a spell for the ages in the second Test. The image of Ollie Pope's stumps lying in a shambles after the most mesmeric of yorkers shattered his ego as much as anything else is imprinted in the memory of every cricket-lover.

They know that Rohit or no Rohit, Kohli or no Kohli and Ashwin or no Ashwin, they won't get a moment's respite with Bumrah around. With the new ball, a less hard orb and an aged ball, on tracks spiteful and placid, Bumrah will brook careful watching because he is the kind who makes things happen, not the kind who waits for events to unravel. The numerous traits that make him the most dangerous all-format bowler do not bear repetition. For both India and their opponents, India with Bumrah and India without Bumrah are entirely different propositions, and especially now more than ever.

What the IPL has reiterated in the last six weeks is that Bumrah is hungry. Ravenously so. His appetite for wickets is undimmed, his craft as compellingly lethal as ever. Music to the ears, eh?

THE GIST

- Bumrah doesn't focus on the batter's pedigree, credentials or reputation. He doesn't get affected by such mundane things as match situations
- In the first couple of matches on his comeback in April, there was a little bit of rust – just a little bit – which was understandable
- For both India and their opponents, India with Bumrah and India without Bumrah are entirely different propositions, and especially now more than ever

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From Page One

'Release TDR certificates to ex-royal family'

Earlier, the State had contended that the issuance of the TDR certificates would result in an additional 13,91,742 sq. feet of built-up area constructable in the city. This would approximately be of a notional value of ₹1,396 crores after deducting 60% of the guidance value.

The Karnataka government had also filed a separate application urging the Supreme Court to take up 1997 civil appeal challenging constitutional validity of the Bangalore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1996.

Sewage treatment capacity to be raised by 470 MLD in 26 new STPs

This will mean an addition of around 35% sewage treatment capacity to the existing 1,348.5 MLD capacity in 34 plants

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The sewage treatment plant in the Vrishabhavati Valley off Mysuru Road. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore Water Treatment and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is working towards adding 470 MLD capacity to treat sewage in 26 new Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) by the end of 2025.

This would mean an addition of around 35% sewage treatment capacity to the existing 1,348.5 MLD capacity in 34 STPs, and take the city's treatment capacity to 1,818.5 MLD. The biggest of them all is coming at the Vrishabhavathi Valley, Mysuru Road, with a capacity of 150 MLD, followed by STPs at Hebbal and Horamavu of 60 MLD capacity each.

Significantly, 14 of these new STPs with a combined capacity of 124 MLD are coming up in the 110 villages which are getting new water connections and Underground Drainage (UGD) lines.

"We are working towards completing these ongoing projects by December 2025. Many of the STPs in the 110 villages will be completed much before that as well," said V. Ram Prasath Manohar, Chairman, BWSSB.

"Once these STPs are commissioned, our capacity to treat sewage will go up significantly. We are also investing in tertiary treatment of this water to ensure its use in the city for non-drinking purposes and filling lakes. This way we will conserve a lot of water," he added.

However, there is not enough demand for treated water from the existing STPs itself. Sources said the demand for treated water has fallen compared to the summer of 2024, when there was a severe water crisis.

Gap still remains

The city currently has infrastructure to draw up to 2,220 MLD water from the Cauvery river, of which around 1,800 MLD is being drawn. This is expected to go up as more new connections are given under the Cauvery V Stage.

In addition, the usage of groundwateris tough to quantify, which means thateven with these 26 new STPs (adding to a total treatment capacity of 1,818.5 MLD), there will still be a big gap in the city's treatment capacity.

A survey taken up by the board after laying 1,538 km long UGD lines and building 14 STPs at a cost of ₹925 crore in 110 villages, shows that these areas still need over 400 km of UGD lines and 9 more STPs, which is estimated to cost around ₹850 crore. The board is expecting to take up these works under the World Bank's Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme, under which the international agency is giving a loan of ₹3,500 crore, and BWSSB is expected to get over ₹1,000 crore.

Flooding: *Suo motu* case taken up

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Lokayukta had taken up a *suo motu* case about flooding in Bengaluru and has directed relevant officials to present themselves before it for inquiry on Friday.

Lokayukta visits areas

Lokayukta B.S. Patil, Upa Lokayuktas K.N. Phaneendra and B. Veerappa visited rain-affected areas in the city on Thursday.

The trio visited Silk Board junction, Panathur railway underpass, Sai Layout, and Manyata Tech Park which were flooded during recent rains.

Still inundated

The areas were still inundated at Panathur railway underpass, there was stagnant water in the drain next to Silk Board Junction, and electricity was still disconnected at Sri Sai Layout on Thursday.

Inquiry today

Lokayukta Justice Patil instructed officials to present themselves before him for an inquiry on Friday.

'End Plastic Pollution' to be theme for World Environment Day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has chosen 'End Plastic Pollution' as the theme of World Environment Day which will be celebrated on June 5.

KSPCB chairman P.M. Narendraswamy on Thursday said that various events will be held in Bengaluru to mark the day, including a mass tree plantation drive, photo contest, green selfie challenge, online quiz contest, graffiti contest, walkathon and cyclothon.

Exhibitions on sustainable product demonstration, green energy demonstration, showcase of start-ups in new technologies, carbon credit for farmers concept promotion, e-waste recycling programme, and documentary screening of Environment related progrmmes will also be held.

He added that an environment awareness campaign, street play, carbon footprint awareness, carbon footprint audit for organisations and waste audit awareness would also be organised on the occasion. An environmental walk will also be organised in front of the steps on the entrance of the Vidhana Soudha, and around 3,000 people, including ministers, dignitaries, officers, Scouts and Guides, and NCC Cadets, will participate in the celebrations to spread environmental concerns.

Mr. Narendraswamy said Chief Minister Siddaramiah will hand over the Karnataka State Environment Awards to individuals and organisations who have rendered significant services in the field of environment protection.

He said that ₹50 lakh would be provided to producing or making environment related films.

He added that KSPCB has proposed installing Reverse Vending Machines (RVM) in local civic bodies to recycle plastic bottles.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (May 23, Friday), the following articles are available:

- Why India needs stable urban forests **newsth.live/urbanforests**
- New drugs arrive on the block, but AMR threats continue **newsth.live/amrthreats**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

63 lakes in the city filled to the brim

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BBMP's Lakes Department stated that it has deployed cleaning teams to clear canals and surroundings of the lakes. FILE PHOTO

In the aftermath of relentless rains that lashed Bengaluru over the past few days, 63 out of the 183 lakes under the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) jurisdiction have reached full capacity.

According to data released by BBMP on May 21, the most affected zones include Yelahanka, which has 19 lakes filled to capacity; Rajarajeshwari Nagar (R.R. Nagar) with 16 lakes full; Mahadevapura with 13 lakes full; and Bommanahalli with 7 lakes that have reached their maximum levels.

These areas have witnessed particularly heavy downpours over the last four days, resulting in rapid lake inflow. Mahadevapura zone alone has 17 lakes reporting water levels above 75% capacity, while Bommanahalli has 15 lakes in the same category.

Most affected zones

- Yelahanka: **19 lakes**
- Rajarajeshwari Nagar: **16 lakes**
- Mahadevapura: **13 lakes**
- Bommanahalli: **15 lakes**

Source: BBMP

A total of 40 lakes has water levels exceeding 75% of their capacity, another 42 lakes are filled between 50% and 75%, 20 lakes hold between 25% and 50%, and 18 lakes have water levels up to 25%.

The BBMP's lakes department stated that it has deployed cleaning teams to clear canals and surroundings of the lakes. Waste such as plastic debris, sticks, and garbage brought in by rainwater runoff has been removed to prevent further blockage and stagnation.

However, environmentalist Raghavendra B. Pachhapur said that cleaning the surroundings of the lake is not enough.

"Filling lakes with polluted water, that is a mix of sewage and rainwater, is not an achievement. The BBMP needs to work on making a way for pure rainwater from surrounding areas to reach the lake. This reduces pollution at lakes and preserves lake water quality under class D, suitable for wildlife and fisheries," he said.

"As per Karnataka State Pollution Control Board's (KSPCB) published lake water quality reports in the last one year, nearly 33% of the lakes are found to be under class E in Bengaluru, which is suitable for irrigation and industrial usage purposes only," Mr. Pachapur explained.

Customs officials rescue 3,000 red-eared slider turtles

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

According to the officials, the accused, who were arrested at KIA, are mules of an international racket

Close to the heels of nine venomous snakes and other wildlife rescued from a Thai flight, Bengaluru Customs officials on Wednesday recovered as many as 3,000 red-eared slider turtles being smuggled from Malaysia into the city.

The officials, based on a tip off , caught two passengers identified as Gopinath Manivelan and Sudhakar Govindaswamy red handed.

The duo had concealed the turtles in chocolate and cereal boxes kept in their travel bags after they landed at Kempegowda international airport.

The duo, according to the officials, were mules of an international wildlife smuggling racket, and their job was to fetch the consignment from Malaysia and hand it over to the person who waited for them outside the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

The duo were offered free travel and stay expenses besides pocket money, the police said.

The turtles, usually around 4 to 10 inches in size, are sold in the open market as pets.

The Customs officials sent the rescued turtles back to Kaula Lampur. The officials have registered a wildlife offence report.

District Day Care Chemotherapy project to be launched today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Starting Friday, cancer patients in need of follow-up chemotherapy in 16 districts can get it in their nearby district hospitals. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will symbolically launch the District Day Care Chemotherapy project in Mysuru on Friday.

Giving details of the project, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao told pressmen on Thursday that the day care chemotherapy centres that will be launched simultaneously in 16 districts will function on a hub and spoke model.

So far, cancer patients had to visit either the State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology in Bengaluru and Kalaburagi, or private hospitals for chemotherapy. Depending on the number of chemotherapy sessions prescribed, patients had to either get admitted or travel back and forth for follow-up therapy.

Karnataka reports approximately 70,000 new cancer cases (incidence of cancer) annually according to ICMR-NCRP 2023 report. The leading cancer sites include breast (18%), cervical (14%), oral (12%), lung (8%), and colorectal (6%). The incidence of oral cancer in Karnataka is higher than the national average at 12 cases per one lakh population. While the incidence of breast cancer is 35 cases per one lakh female population, incidence of cervical cancer is 15 cases per one lakh women population.

"However, 60% of patients travel more than 100 km for chemotherapy owing to centralised services in major cities, such as Bengaluru, Hubballi, and Mysuru. Due to these logistical issues and travel cost, over 30% of patients drop out of treatment and this has created a need for district day care chemotherapy centres (DCCC)," the Minister said.

These centres will not only reduce the urban-rural disparity in cancer care but also minimise travel/hospitalisation costs for stable patients while preventing patients dropping out of treatment, he said.

The centres to be run on a 'hub and spoke' model, will be established through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between tertiary care centres and district day care chemotherapy centres.

The 16 hub hospitals that have been empanelled are responsible for clinical services.

'No need to panic about COVID now'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who asserted that there is no need to panic about COVID-19 at this stage, said the State is closely monitoring the situation.

"We have been getting sporadic COVID-19 cases and as of now there are 32 active cases in the State. But this is not an outbreak of the new strain," he said.

Demand for books by Banu Mushtaq goes up

The writer's short story collection 'Heart Lamp', translated by Deepa Bhasti has won the International Booker Prize

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After writer Banu Mushtaq's 'Heart Lamp' won this year's International Booker Prize on Wednesday, the demand for the book, in both Kannada and English has gone up in book stores across Bengaluru.

'Heart Lamp' is a collection of 12 short stories translated by Deepa Bhasti, from the Kannada version, called *'Haseena'*.

Blossom Book House on Church Street reported a remarkable increase in sales of Heart Lamp since the Booker Prize announcement.

"We have sold over 55 copies within 24 hours of the announcement, and we have sold more than 10 in the first half of Thursday. The demand is unprecedented," store manager Ravi Kumar said.

Guru Prasad, founder of Akrithi Books, said more than 50 copies of the Kannada book have been sold after the announcement. "The book is in great demand," he said.

Literary works of Banu Mushtaq. PRAKASH HASSAN

Book stores have seen that apart from buying the books for themselves, many are also buying them as gifts for families and friends. "The buzz around the Booker Prize has brought more readers in. We are seeing a lot of young adults and middle-aged readers, many of whom are purchasing multiple copies to gift to friends and family," said Priya Reddy, assistant manager in Sapna Book House, Jayanagar.

The success of Heart Lamp has also sparked renewed interest in Banu Mushtaq's earlier works. Bookstores report increased inquiries about her previous publications, with some customers purchasing her other books alongside Heart Lamp. This trend indicates a growing appreciation for Ms. Mushtaq's contributions to literature and a desire to explore more of her storytelling.

"I was not aware of Banu Mushtaq before the Booker Prize was announced. Following the announcement, I browsed about her and her works online. I also bought a copy of the Heart Lamp. I plan to read her other works too," said Nikitha Shivesh, a reader from Basavanagudi.

(With inputs from Raunak Mukherjee and Bhuvaneshwari)

Govt. allots BDA site

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet has congratulated Kannada writer Banu Mushtaq and translator Deepa Bhashti who won the International Booker Prize.

The book *Heart Lamp*, translated from the Kannada by Ms. Bhasthi, is the first collection of short stories to be awarded the prize, and it's the first time Kannada has been honoured.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said a Bangalore Development Authority site would be allotted to Ms. Mushtaq if she is willing to accept it. The site would be allotted under the Government (G) category, he said.

A leading cause for AMR is the misuse and overuse of antibiotics across various sectors. While only about 30% of all antibiotics are used to treat humans, the majority are used in livestock, agriculture and aquaculture. FILE PHOTO

New drugs arrive on the block, but AMR threats continue

While the launch of Nafithromycin — the first antibiotic to be developed in the past 30 years globally — is a welcome step, experts warn that addressing antimicrobial resistance is no longer optional, and tackling it requires a multifaceted approach with a shared sense of responsibility

Soujanya Padikkal

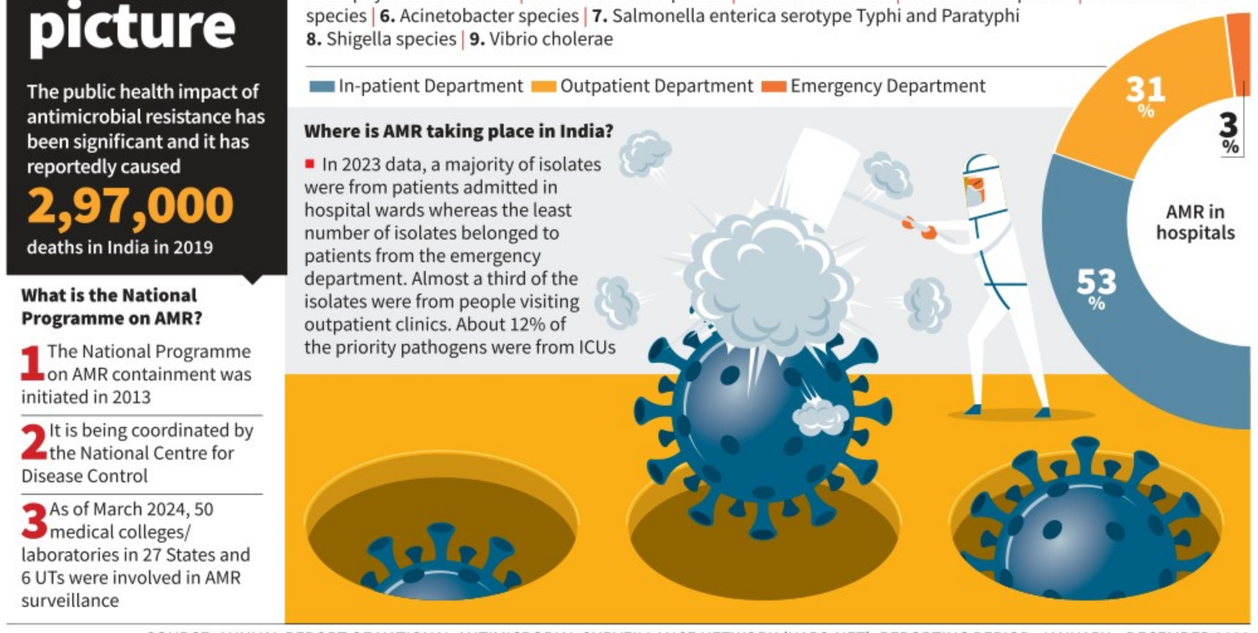
In 2020, 58-year-old Viswanathan, recovering from a stroke, sought physiotherapy from an Ayurvedic practitioner, hoping to regain mobility. However, this treatment caused wounds on his leg. As a diabetic with an already weakened immune system this marked the beginning of his battle with antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

After a year of battling infections, he was given a last-resort antibiotic that damaged his kidneys. Hospital-acquired infections further complicated his condition, and ultimately, he died in April, 2021.

Antibiotics, known to save millions of lives, are now making headlines for the opposite reason. AMR occurs when microorganisms like bacteria evolve to develop resistance against the very drugs designed to kill them. AMR contributed to 1.27 million deaths globally and in India caused 2,97,000 deaths in 2019 based on a report by the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), University of Washington. The public health impact of bacterial AMR has been significant. According to a study published in *The Lancet*, 1.91 million people could die directly from AMR and 8.22 million deaths associated with AMR could occur globally in 2050.

A leading cause for AMR is the misuse and overuse of antibiotics across various sectors. While only about 30% of all antibiotics are used to treat humans, the majority are used in livestock, agriculture and aquaculture. In countries like India, selling antibiotics without prescription also contributes on a large scale to resistance. The recent ban on using colistin as a growth promoter in the poultry industry in India has made significant inroads in curbing resistant strains from emerging.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared AMR as one of the top 10 global health threats.



SOURCE: ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL ANTIMICROBIAL SURVEILLANCE NETWORK (NARS-NET), REPORTING PERIOD: JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

With slow progress in research, no new drugs have been developed in the past three decades globally. "After the initial boom and the "golden age" of antibiotics (from 1940 to 1960), the field was marked by a sharp decline in new antibiotic approvals for decades," said Tomislav Mestrovic, affiliate associate professor of Health Metrics Sciences, at IHME, responding to questions via mail.

It is no wonder then that with the development of Nafithromycin, India has reached a milestone given it has the highest burden of bacterial infections.

Gaps in healthcare system

While scientific advancements like Nafithromycin are promising, it is also important for us to recognise the gaps within India's healthcare system that prevent effective treatment against AMR.

Vysakh, Mr. Viswanathan's son, a PhD scholar in Poland, said a communication gap exists between medical professionals and the patient's family members. A lapse he believes the medical community also needs to address is the quality of equipment being used. "Another pitfall that happens is diagnostic issues," he pointed out. "It took at least one week to get a proper antibiogram delivered and to figure out [which] bacteria is causing infection and to [administer] the specific antibiotic. So this was a big problem". He also added that there was an issue of accountability within the system.

Vysakh's family's plight is unfortunately a common scenario across the healthcare system. "Understaffing of healthcare professionals combined with high patient loads makes it difficult to ensure adherence to best stewardship practices," said Dr. Mestrovic, while speaking about the key challenges India faces in implementing effective antimicrobial stewardship across its healthcare network.

Apart from these issues, India also faces the added challenge of self-medication by people, selling of antibiotics without prescriptions and lack of a proper regulatory framework. "[In] a lot of low-to-middle income countries you can go to a pharmacy and they will give you an antibiotic without any prescription," said François Franceschi, head of asset evaluation and development and serious bacterial infections project leader, Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP), as he recalled his experience at a pharmacy in Mumbai.

Despite antibiotics being prescription drugs in India they are sold over-the-counter, contributing significantly to the resistance problem. "Part of the action plans that [are] trying to be implemented in many countries is [to] stop letting people buy antibiotics without prescription. That's a big step and that should happen because otherwise, you know, you are fighting a battle that you're going to lose,"said Dr. Franceschi.

Government action

The Indian government is working on multiple fronts to combat AMR including establishing AMR surveillance networks, developing a National Action Plan and promoting public awareness. "The implementation of the National Action Plan on AMR in 2017 marked a key milestone in aligning the country's efforts with the global strategy, and this is the right path forward," said Dr. Mestrovic.

Promoting public awareness is a key aspect that needs to be addressed from the very beginning. It is not uncommon to see people take antibiotics for a viral fever which is not only ineffective but adds to resistance. "Public awareness about AMR remains low, leading to patient demand for antibiotics even when not needed which is not characteristic only for India, but much wider," said Dr. Mestrovic. The pressing need to educate people about the dangers of inappropriately using antibiotics resonates with all the experts in the field.

Despite antibiotics being prescription drugs in India they are sold over-the-counter, contributing significantly to the resistance problem

Resistance is a natural phenomenon in microorganisms. But it happens over time, through genetic changes and adaptations. However, the widespread and excessive use of antibiotics across sectors has accelerated the process. It is quite natural to wonder then what the future of the new antibiotics that are being developed looks like. "Long-term effectiveness of new antibiotics depends not only on scientific advancement, but also on responsible global stewardship from day one," said Dr. Mestrovic. "Patient education and public awareness are indispensable in the fight against AMR, especially when we are talking about the misuse and overuse of antibiotics."

Education, innovation and regulation need to progress parallelly to curb AMR. "I think it's very important that governments recognise that we need to do something now or we are going to be facing a problem that is much bigger in the future," said Dr. Franceschi. "We need to be multiple steps ahead of [pathogens]".

Nafithromycin is a start and will be launched in the market for a month in the coming few months. The development of antibiotics is a long and resource-intensive process. "Many large pharmaceutical companies exited the antibiotic space because the return on investment was too low compared to chronic disease drugs leading to what many called the "antibiotic innovation gap," said Dr. Mestrovic.

Institutions like Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre (BBC) and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) and companies like Wockhardt, Orchid Pharma and Bugworks in India are among the few companies that focus on antibiotic development.

Given the low return on investment, it is mostly small pharma companies taking on the challenge of developing new antibiotics during this crisis. And the path is not easy, especially when it comes to clinical trial approval by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). "We expect the regulators and the government as a whole to have a much better appreciation of fundamental drug research and make more enabling policies for us," said Dr. Khorakiwala.

Accessibility and affordability are other important factors in the development of new antibiotics. Wockhardt's strategy is to price its drugs based on the purchasing power of different countries. For example, the price of a drug in India could be up to 80% less than the price in the United States. "Accessibility is as important as finding a new drug", added Dr. Khorakiwala.

For Vysakh, the issue is deeply personal. His story is a reminder of the harsh reality of AMR – a silent threat unnoticed by many. And his experience sheds light on the challenges families face in healthcare facilities in India. "I would really love to see two major changes – diagnostics and proper quality control for the equipment used," he said. He also believes education has to be the first step in this fight against AMR.

Emerging resistance

Infectious diseases experts have also flagged emerging resistance to newer drug formulations too, more recently. Abdul Ghafur, founder, AMR Declaration Trust, in a letter to the Drugs Controller General of India cautioned that misuse of newer molecules is leading to initial signs of resistance as reported by *The Hindu*. Ceftazidime-avibactam – a potent antibiotic, he claimed, is losing efficacy due to extensive, irrational, and uncontrolled use. Experts say that it is more than ever before, important for the government to lead antibiotic stewardship, at this stage, as newer molecules are finally enter the market.

Addressing AMR is no longer optional and tackling it requires a multifaceted approach with a shared sense of responsibility to make a difference. "Combating AMR is not just a scientific or medical challenge, it is a collective responsibility that requires coordinated action across sectors, as well as sustained investment and empowered communities," said Dr. Mestrovic. "We have the right tools, knowledge and innovation to make a difference, but success depends on translating awareness into action at every level – from policymakers and researchers to the medical community and the public."

(Soujanya Padikkal is a freelance content provider based in Hyderabad souji_padikkal@yahoo.co.in)

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Persons stranded in the massive floods in eastern Australia

50,000 The floods stranded more than half a lakh people in the country on Thursday, killing three. The storms have dumped more than half a year's worth of rain over just three days, the government weather bureau said. PTI

Number of COVID cases reported in Gujarat

15 Gujarat has recorded new coronavirus cases after a long gap, with officials urging people not to panic as the present variant is less severe. These are active cases of JN.1 variant. Of the active cases in Gujarat, 13 are in Ahmedabad city and one each is in Rajkot city and Ahmedabad rural. PTI

Starvation-related deaths among Gazan children

29 The Health Minister said on Thursday that at least 29 children had died from starvation-related causes in Gaza. Reacting to comments by the U.N. aid chief that 14,000 babies could die without aid, he said: "The number is realistic, may be even underestimating (the scale)." REUTERS

Number of 2019 Easter Sunday attack victims paid compensation

660 The Sri Lankan government has told the Supreme Court that over 660 victims of the Easter Sunday suicide bombings have been paid compensation. The court was hearing the petitions filed to observe the disbursement of compensation. PTI

Number of persons trapped in landslides in China

19 Two separate landslides struck Changshi and Guowa townships in Dafang county on Thursday. Two people were trapped in Changshi, while more than a dozen in Qingyang village of Guowa were trapped across six residential buildings. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Why India needs stable urban forests

What role do urban forests play in combating air pollution and climate change? What is the impact of urbanisation on forests like Kancha Gachibowli? What are the areas of concern? Where do courts stand? What does the Nagar Van Yojana aim to achieve by 2027?

EXPLAINER

Dev Nath Pathak
Vibha S Bharadwaj

The story so far:

One of Hyderabad's last remaining urban forests, Kancha Gachibowli, faced the threat of extinction when the Telangana government decided to give away 400 acres of its land for industrial development. Justifying its move by claiming ownership over the forest, the government alleged that protesting students were misled by real estate interests. However, the Supreme Court took cognisance of the felling of 100 acres of trees and reprimanded the State government. This issue highlighted the vulnerability of urban forests and environmentally insensitive models of urban development.

Why do urban forests matter?

Urban forests – such as Kancha Gachibowli in Hyderabad, Aarey in Mumbai, Turahalli in Bengaluru, Neela Hauz and the Ridge in Delhi, and Dol Ka Baadh in Jaipur – are significant for healthy urban living. The National Green Tribunal issued a notice to the Madhya Pradesh government against the rampant felling of trees in Bhopal. Similarly, the High Court had to intervene in the case of indiscriminate tree felling in Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh. Many such instances from across India emphasise a need to understand that the urban forests matter to public life.

Studies worldwide have underlined the importance of urban forests in coping with the built concrete environment and the emissions from automobile vehicles. They help mitigate climate change, reduce the urban heat island effect, and control stormwater runoff, erosion, and flooding. Urban forests also sequester carbon and absorb pollutants. The density of green spaces in cities ensures the longevity and survival of the endangered birds and animals.

Students of the University of Hyderabad raise slogans during their protest on April 1. PTI

Diminishing urban forests in India's metropolitan cities spell severe consequences. For example, in November 2024, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) reported alarming levels of the air quality index (AQI) in Delhi at 494. Other cities such as Chennai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru had AQI levels above 100. The CPCB mentions PM 2.5 and PM 10 pollutants – mostly from vehicle emissions and construction dust – as the main causes. Urban forests can serve as a safeguard against toxic urban air. A 2006 study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service showed that one hectare of trees can remove around one ton of air pollutants.

Urban social and cultural life is otherwise fraught with speed and risk. A sense of romance, repose, relaxation, and nature-sensitive recreation is due to proximity to urban forests. The sustained preservation and consistent creation of urban forests can make Indian cities breathable and urban living beautiful.

Why are judicial interventions important?

Urban forests have featured in policies, missions, and judicial interventions in India. Both the National Forest Policy of 1988 and the National Mission for Green India of 2014 underlined the imperative of increasing afforestation and social forestry. The Smart Cities Mission and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, launched in 2015, integrated smart urban designs with ecological and social development.

Besides, the judicial interventions play important roles in promoting and protecting urban forests. The landmark Godavarman case in 1996 broadened the definition of forests to enhance the protection of urban greenery. Consequently, in 2004, the apex court issued interim orders to all the States in India for the identification, scrutiny, and mapping of forests across their territories. The aim was to generate a comprehensive forest inventory in order to enhance conservation efforts.

Another instance of judicial intervention was in 2015 when the Delhi High Court directed the Delhi government to notify and protect the Delhi Ridge, also known as the Aravalli leopard wildlife corridor. Similarly, the apex court issued a stay order on the tree felling in Aarey in Mumbai in 2020 in response to the petitions by the citizens who conducted the Save Aarey Forest movement. Equally significant is the instance of the civil society and concerned citizens protesting against the felling of trees in the biodiversity-rich areas of the Baran district in Rajasthan. The Rajasthan High Court took *suo motu* cognisance of the matter in 2024.

The judicial interventions are requisite in the protection of forests and instilling awareness among the citizens. And, so are provisions in the Constitution of India, such as Article 21 (Right to Life), which includes the right to a healthy environment. Equally important are Articles 48A and 51A(g), ensuring the promotion and improvement of the natural environment.

What is the main goal of the Nagar Van Yojana?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi duly observed the importance of wildlife and biodiversity conservation on the occasion of World Wildlife Day on March 3, 2025. Such a spirit is conducive to the drive to protect urban forests, too.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) of the Government of India had rolled out the Nagar Van Yojana (urban forest scheme) in 2020. The objective was to promote and grow forest spaces in urban areas. The Nagar Van Yojna envisages developing a thousand urban forests by the year 2027. According to the India State of Forest Report 2023, the scheme has resulted in an increase of 1445.81 km of tree and forest cover.

Why is the threat to urban forests concerning?

Rapidly urbanising India grapples with the consequences of abysmal regard for environmental conservation and sustainability. The threat to urban forests is a challenge to our biomedical, social, and cultural well-being. It is imperative that we, the people, play a role as citizens and civil society.

The Supreme Court order directing the Telangana government to restore the forested area of Kancha Gachibowli augurs well for a holistic soul searching. The mushrooming concrete jungles in the cities shall not devour the urban forests.

Dev Nath Pathak, Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, South Asian University, Delhi & Vibha S Bharadwaj, Young Scholar, Christ University, Bangalore

THE GIST

- Urban forests such as Kancha Gachibowli face threats from environmentally insensitive urban development and industrial expansion.
- They play a crucial role in mitigating climate change effects, reducing air pollution, and sustaining biodiversity in metropolitan cities.
- Policy initiatives like Nagar Van Yojana and judicial interventions are essential for conservation and ensuring the right to a healthy environment.

What is the need of the hour in autism care?

What causes autism? How can we improve early diagnosis and access to intervention?

Zubeda Hamid

The story so far:

Last month, U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. announced a massive testing and research effort to identify the "environmental toxins" that he said were behind the growing "epidemic" of autism in the U.S. He said the Department of Health and Human Services would launch a series of new studies focusing on environmental substances. Calling autism "preventable", he said there would be some answers by September this year. Some of Mr. Kennedy's remarks came following the release of a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing that rates of autism had increased from 1 in 36 children in 2020 to 1 in 31 in 2022.

What is autism?

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), according to the World Health Organization (WHO), are a diverse group of conditions. They are characterised by some degree of difficulty with social interaction and communication. Other characteristics are atypical patterns of activities and behaviours. Characteristics of autism may be detected in early childhood, but autism is often not diagnosed until much later.

What does the existing research say?

Existing research points to multiple factors, possibly both genetic and environmental factors. Research has also shown that the MMR vaccine, that was linked to autism in a now widely debunked study, does not cause autism, nor do other childhood vaccines increase the risk of autism.

Is it preventable?

Prevention strategies may be complex, says Sheffali Gulati, child neurologist, Department of Paediatrics, AIIMS New Delhi, due to the interplay of multiple factors, many of which remain unknown as yet; autism is not caused by one specific gene or one specific environmental factor. "In general, in healthcare, prevention consists of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Here, if primary prevention may not be fully possible as of yet, as more research is needed to understand what is causing autism, it is important to focus on secondary and tertiary prevention, which consists of early diagnosis and picking up of cases as well as interventions to help," she said.

"We've come a long way in understanding autism, and what we know from decades of research is that genetics plays a role, with heritability estimates as high as 91% in some studies (Tick et al., JAMA, 2016). While certain environmental exposures may influence development in utero, such as advanced parental age or prenatal exposure to air pollutants, there is no single environmental toxin scientifically proven to cause autism (Sandin et al., JAMA, 2014; Becerra et al., EHP, 2013). Autism is not a disease in the classical form. It is a developmental difference shaped by a complex interplay of biology and environment. While some individual risk factors have been identified, none offer a path to broad prevention. Framing autism in this way is scientifically inaccurate and socially irresponsible. This kind of language risks placing blame on parents and caregivers, particularly mothers, for outcomes far beyond their control. It reinforces stigma and creates shame where there should be support," says (via email) Tyler Evans, Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, Department of Population and Public Health Sciences.

Is autism on the rise?

"The prevalence of ASD is growing," says Ennapadam S. Krishnamoorthy, neuropsychiatrist and founder, Buddhi Clinic, Chennai, "and this is attributed to several factors, including recognition of the condition, as well as the criteria becoming more inclusive – the focus in the early years was on the more severe cases, but today, many of the less severe cases also fall under the autism framework." Also, he said, apart from genetic propagation, there are a number of environmental factors today that could also be contributing to the rise, triggers that could be making ASD manifest.

Overall, says Gita Sankaran, founder, WeCAN, a resource centre for autism in Chennai, there has been an increase in the number of diagnoses of individuals on the mild end of the spectrum, primarily because of increased awareness and access to information about ASD. As the population increases, however, there has been a proportionate increase in the total number of cases.

What should be done for ASD care and support?

At this point, says Dr. Krishnamoorthy, we are far from diagnosing every case early and intervening early, and so, this should still be the priority.

More psycho-education for families across the board, and a more realistic approach to interventions based on the needs of each child, are also vital, said Dr. Sankaran.

Dr. Krishnamoorthy also raised the importance of combating misinformation, particularly related to autism being caused by vaccines, which, he said, had led to a drop in vaccination rates and could precipitate epidemics. "But crucially, more focus has to be given to maternal health during pregnancy. A lot of our current efforts in this direction are to do with communicable diseases, but non-communicable diseases, especially mental health, are not talked about enough. What can mothers and families do to ensure optimal environments for the growing foetus and for infants and toddlers? There has to be more awareness and more attention given to this area."

Labourer arrested for smuggling ganja in train

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cantonment railway police arrested a 23-year-old labourer who was allegedly carrying 4.6 kilograms of ganja in the Prasanthi Express, which was coming to the city.

The accused, identified as Sridhar Kisan, a native of Keonjhar village in Odisha and works as a daily wage labourer in the city, was caught as soon as he got down at the cantonment station and was walking with a bag on the platform suspiciously, the police said.

Assistant Sub Inspector Ravi R. was on his rounds when he noticed the accused trying to get out of the station, hoodwinking checks, and confronted him. Upon checking his baggage, Mr. Ravi allegedly recovered the contraband packed in the bag.

The accused has been booked under the NDPS Act. He was remanded in judicial custody .

In a separate incident, the Byappanahalli railway police arrested another labourer identified as Bishikesh Pradhan, from Odisha, and allegedly recovered 10.4 kilos of ganja from him. Pradhan got down from the Prasanthi Express on May 7. He was confronted by PSI Govindappa on suspicion. According to the police, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh are the two States from where ganja is being smuggled by train to Bengaluru.

From now, pay to use toilet at 12 Namma Metro stations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Namma Metro commuters will have to shell out money to use the toilets at 12 stations from now on. The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has handed over the management of restrooms located in the unpaid areas of these stations to Sulabh International, a non-profit known for managing public sanitation facilities. According to a senior BMRCL official, users will now be required to pay ₹2 for urinal use and ₹5 for toilet use.

In the first phase, the stations where these charges have been introduced include National College, Lalbagh, South End Circle, Jayanagar, Rashtriya Vidyalaya Road, Banashankari, Jaya Prakash Nagar, Yelachenahalli, Sir M Visvesvaraya Station (Central College), Dr BR Ambedkar Station (Vidhana Soudha), Cubbon Park, and Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station.

This move comes months after the implementation of a steep fare hike of up to 71%.

When Namma Metro first began operations in 2011 with a line connecting Baiyappanahalli to M.G. Road, the lack of access to the restrooms for the public became a contentious issue. In response to mounting public pressure, the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission had declared that the absence of toilets violated the fundamental rights of commuters. Eventually, BMRCL agreed to provide free restroom access to passengers within the paid concourse areas in 2015.

However, this latest decision to impose fees in unpaid zones has left many commuters angry. "We are already burdened with increased fares, and now even basic facilities like toilets come at a cost. This feels like profiteering in the name of convenience," said Shalini R., a regular commuter from Jayanagar.

Another passenger, Santosh Kumar, who boards the metro at Banashankari, said, "Metro stations should be inclusive and people-friendly. Charging for toilets, especially when fares have just gone up, sends the wrong message about priorities."

Some others said that if it means that toilets will be well-maintained, paying a nominal sum will not be a bad idea. "The metro stations are usually clean, but I cannot say the same about the toilets I have used in some of the stations. If collecting a nominal sum is going to improve cleanliness, then I don't mind paying," said Dharini. N, a commuter from Kengeri.

Man arrested on murder charge

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajgopal Nagar police have arrested a 24-year-old canter driver on the charges of killing an autorickshaw driver on Sunday night. The deceased has been identified as Rangaswamy and the accused Vinay Kumar, a resident of Basavanakatte, who has been charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. According to the police, Rangaswamy allegedly created a ruckus while drunk by shouting and hurling abuses at passers-by in the area where he lives. Vinay Kumar confronted him leading to an argument.

A heated argument ensued between them and in the melee, Vinay Kumar allegedly pushed Rangaswamy, who fell down and sustained severe head injuries. He was rushed to Victoria hospital where he succumbed the next day.

Cabinet clears revised expenditure for metro work, tunnel road in city

Decision was taken to call tenders for collection and transportation of garbage in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar says that the expenditure for metro line work has increased by ₹14,019.88 crore owing to several factors. FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday cleared a revised plan expenditure proposal of ₹40,425.02 crore for the second phase of the Namma Metro project of the BMRCL.

The cost of the second phase increased by ₹14,019.88 crore, from ₹26,405 crore to ₹40,425.02 crore, for taking up metro line work from 72.9 km to 75.06 km.

Speaking to reporters after the Cabinet meeting, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said that due to an increase in the land acquisition cost, an increase in the guidance value, and civil construction work by ₹4,408.73 crore, the expenditure has increased by ₹14,019.88 crore.

The Cabinet has decided to call tenders for the collection and transportation of garbage in Bengaluru. Tenders will be floated for seven years at the cost of ₹4,791.95 crore.

Mr. Shivakumar said tenders will be called in 33 packages, with each package for one small Legislative Assembly constituency and two packages for bigger constituencies.

The High Court has directed the government to redraw the timeline for the completion of the tender process within four months.

Tunnel

The Cabinet has cleared ₹17,780 for a 16.75 km tunnel project from Hebbal to Silk Board in Bengaluru. Mr. Shivakumar said the Chief Minister has been authorised to call global tenders for the project.

All works related to the project would be completed in 38 months, he said.

Interest waiver

Mr. Shivakumar said the Cabinet approved a full waiver of interest on default in payment of property tax by community organisations or Trusts for Bengaluru Development Authority sites in Bengaluru.

The interest waiver would be around ₹234 crore.

Organisations have been asked to pay the principal amount of the tax within 120 days.

A decision was taken on the construction of housing complexes on three acres at Bandemata in Kengeri in Bengaluru.

It has decided to develop two BHK 214 housing flats with a basement, ground floor, and 12 floors, and three BHK 214 flats with a basement, ground floor, and 13 floors, a clubhouse, gym, swimming pool, and other amenities.

In the first phase, out of 6.8 acres, three acres would be used for housing complexes by the Karnataka Housing Board.

Modi virtually inaugurates five railway stations

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Five railway stations under South Western Railway (SWR) zone in the State, Gokak Road, Gadag, Munirabad, Dharwad and Bagalkot, that have been upgraded and modernised under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, were inaugurated via virtual mode by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday.

These five railway stations redeveloped at a total cost of ₹91.33 crore are among the 103 such redeveloped railway stations.

Actor Tamannaah Bhatia appointed brand ambassador of KSDL

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tamannaah Bhatia.

Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil on Thursday announced that actor Tamannaah Bhatia has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited (KSDL). The move is aimed at expanding the global reach of the prestigious State-owned enterprise.

The Minister stated that the decision was made considering the actor's wide appeal, strong digital presence, and her ability to connect with the younger generation.

Responding to objections raised by certain quarters, Minister Patil described the appointment of Tamannaah as a thoughtful and research-backed decision. She has been signed as the brand ambassador for a period of two years, for which she will be paid ₹6.2 crore.

In the financial year 2024-25, KSDL recorded an impressive turnover of ₹1,785.99 crore, out of which around ₹1,430 crore—approximately 80%—was generated from six key States: Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Maharashtra. "Other leading celebrities such as Deepika Padukone, Rashmika Mandanna, Pooja Hegde, and Kiara Advani were also considered. However, after evaluating factors like ongoing brand endorsements, availability, and associated costs, Tamannaah was selected for her strong pan-India appeal, reasonable engagement terms, and remarkable digital reach with over 28 million followers," Patil said.

Marketing experts felt that her persona resonates well with younger audiences and aligns with KSDL's brand values of quality, heritage, and contemporary relevance. He further added, "It is important to note that this endorsement is only one part of a much broader strategic transformation currently underway at KSDL." Highlighting KSDL's commitment to local employment, the minister pointed out that 89% of its workforce comprises Kannadigas. "It is a matter of pride that a government enterprise like KSDL has grown to the extent of establishing a unit in Vijayapura. We are also working on improving packaging appeal to enhance the brand's value," the Mminister added.

KSDL Chairman Appaji Nadagoda said that a strong and suitable strategy is crucial for expanding the brand in North India and global markets. Tamannaah's appointment is based purely on marketing criteria, and the government is committed to taking this 109-year-old state enterprise to even greater heights.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, MAY. 23
RISE 05:53 SET 18:40
RISE 02:24 SET 14:54

SATURDAY, MAY. 24
RISE 05:53 SET 18:40
RISE 03:07 SET 15:52

SUNDAY, MAY. 25
RISE 05:53 SET 18:41
RISE 03:53 SET 16:54

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	31	21
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
28ºC Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29ºC The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of lght rain and thundershower with gusty winds is possible.

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THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client Shri. Harishchandra S/o Late Thimmappa intend to purchase the scheduled property, bearing No.19 Khata No.5/2 B-Khata serial No.1300 situated at Jaraganahalli Village Uttarahalli Hobli Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore from the present owner **Smt.Laxmi W/o Jagadeesh.C.R** Residing at No.7,4th cross Jaragaahalli, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-78.

Any person or persons having any right title or interest by way of inheritance of claim against the said schedule property, should send their claims in writing to the undersigned along with the documentary evidence in support of the said claim thereof within 15 days from the date of paper publication of this Notice, failing which any claims made belatedly shall be deemed to have been waived nor shall be entertained.

Sd/-
M/s.Global Surge Laws Advocates
No.1304,24th Main 9TH Cross,
J.P.Nagar 1" Phase, Bengaluru-560078
Ph: 9845342833, 9845042360

झारखण्ड सरकार
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।

ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना
(प्रथम निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना)
ई–निविदा प्रसंग सं० :– **RCD/GIRIDIH/523/2025-26**
दिनांक :– **22.05.2025**

1.	कार्य का नाम	बड़कीटांड–तीनपतली–डोकीडीह–गिरनिया मोड़ पथ (कुल लंबाई 11.065 कि0मी0) पुनर्निर्माण कार्य (भू–अर्जन एवं Plantation सहित) वर्ष 2025–26
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	रू0 32,24,20,626.00 (बत्तीस करोड़ चौबीस लाख बीस हजार छः सौ छब्बीस रूपये मात्र)
3.	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	8 (आठ) माह
4.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	17.06.2025 12:00 बजे दिन तक
5.	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि एवं समय	28.05.2025 10:30 बजे पूर्वाह्न
6.	प्रीबीड बैठक	03.06.2025 12:00 बजे
7.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।
8.	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क नं०	06532 – 227054
9.	ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्प लाईन नं०	0651 – 2401010

नोट :– प्राक्कलित राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है।
अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट पर देखें :– http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

ह०/–
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।
PR.NO.353264 Road(25-26):D

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/118/2025
Dated : 19/05/2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Setting up of 'Safety Village' for training of break down officials in disaster management": Proposed New & Balance works at IRIDM-HEJJALA- Balance works of Administrative Block/ Hostel Blocks/ Sports Complex/ Quarters Type-II,III,IV,V/ Station Building / Road & Drains/ Track Works/ ROB/RUB/RCC Drains in Cuttings/RRM compound wall with fencing/Pond Protective works/Basket ball & Volley ball courts/ Horticulture & Landscape/ Drainage arrangements/ Rain water Harvesting/ STP 40KLD - 2 nos/ STP 10KLD - 2 Nos/ Tunnel/ Protective works of Major & Minor Bridges/ Multi Purpose Hall - New Works of Administrative Building-Extension in RHS & LHS - additions & alterations in Existing Rooms- Steel terrace over Auditorium FF/ Hostel Blocks- additions & alterations in Supervisor & Officer blocks & Kitchen Block- Steel terrace over Kitchen FF & Reception/ Plinth Protection works/Field View Gallery 2 Nos/ New Halt Station works: PF construction 2 sides- PF shelter - Minor Bridge Extension/New Road infrastructure works/ Ground level sumps/RCC Retaining walls/Soil Investigation/ Proposed accident demonstration open theatre for demonstration of accident with 140T DBHD crane/ covered shed of total size 40.00m x 12.00m for stabling Gottwald design 140 ton capacity crane of HJL siding etc., including electrical works (Composite works). **(Tender Ref. No: HJS-DMISV-07)**	Rs. 34,82,61,498/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 11-06-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/129/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. E-07/2025-26 **Date: 16/05/2025**
E-TENDERS

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India, E-tender for supply of following items. Only e-offer will be acceptable for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and Registration on **IREPS**. The details of tenders are in the following sequence: **S.No., Tender No., (Due Date) Description and Quantity**. **S.No. 1.** 09251298 Open Tender (02/06/2025) SURGE ARRESTER FOR 3-PHASE (PL No. 29750052) Qty. 1629 Nos. **2.** 09251029 Open Tender (02/06/2025) PRIMARY VOLTAGE TRANSFORMER (PL No. 29695028) Qty. 929 Nos. **3.** 09250120 Open Tender (06/06/2025) TRACTION MOTOR BLOWER (PL No. 29440075) Qty.1669 Sets **4.** 09251201. Open Tender (6/06/2025) OIL COOLING UNIT FOR TRANSFORMER (PL No. 29470043) Qty.2011 sets **5.** 09251024 Open Tender (18/06/2025) SCAVENGE BLOWER (PL No. 29440117) Qty. 1417 Sets **6.** 09251200 Open Tender (25/06/2025) SCAVENGE BLOWER (PL No. 29440129) Qty. 1488 Sets **7.** 09251210. Open Tender (03/07/2025) SINGLE CORE CABLE (PL No. 29600145) Qty. 25841 Meter **8.** 09250121. Open Tender (17/07/2025) SINGLE CORE CABLE (PL No. 29600133) Qty. 9628 Meter **9.** 09251026. Open Tender (06/08/2025) MASTER CONTROLLER (PL No. 29860015) Qty.1347 Sets **10.** 09251224 open Tender (09/06/2025) MULTI CORE CABLE (PL No. 29600352) Qty. 7104 Meter **11.** 09251221 open Tender (10/06/2025) MULTI CORE CABLE (PL No. 29600327) Qty. 29512 Meter. **12.** 09251095 open Tender (13/06/2025) HIGH VOLTAGE BUSHING (PL No. 29731021) Qty. 769 Nos. **13.** 06251768A (23/06/2025) Set Of Earthing Cable (PL No. 29600390) Qty. 655 Set **14.** 06251866 (30/06/2025) Pantograph Mounting Insulator (PL No. 29810127) Qty. 5205 Nos. **15.** 06251867 (10/06/2025) Roof Line Insulator (PL No. 29810139) Qty. 5817 Nos. **16.** 06251775 (30/06/2025) Earthing Choke (PL No. 29610310) Qty. 906 Nos. **17.** 08251003A, Open Tender, (09/06/2025), Set of Helical Springs for WAP7 1209-01.115-008 Alt-2 1209-01.115-009 Alt-2 1209-01.015-010 Alt-2 Spec:CLW/MS/3/SPEC/ELDO-BOGIE/004 ALT-2, (PL. No. 29045034), Qty. 315 Set. **18.** 08251033, Open Tender, (09/06/2025), Oil Cooler Radiator for Convertor CAT No. N/0/0065 C&D No. T020/010 29470031 Nil Spec:CLW/ES/3/0102/E, (PL No. 29470031), Qty. 1366 Nos. **19.** 08250100, Open Tender, (11/06/2025), SET OF HELICAL SPRING FOR WAG9HC 1209.01.115-028 1209.01.215-027 Spec:CLW/MS/3/ SPEC/ELDO-BOGIE/004 ALT-2. (Set of helical spring means one loco set of helical springs), (PL. No. 29041041), Qty. 383 Set. **20.** 10241425A, (30/06/2025) Exhaust Valve Bridge Assembly, (PL No. 16040132), Qty. 9641 Nos. **21.** 10241378A, (02/07/2025) Scavenging Lube Oil Pump Assembly (PL No. 16060090), Qty. 496 Nos. The details of above tenders are available on **https:/www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **https://www.ireps.gov.in Corrigendum Notice: 22.** Tender No. 09251109, Bid Inv. No. E-06, Existing Due Date 18/06/2025, Revised Due Date 23/07/2025 **23.** Tender No. 04250010, Bid No. E-06/2025-26, Due date 02.06.25, Revision 1, Details of Correction: Quantity to be read as 700 sets instead of 512 sets. **24.** Tender No. 04251052, Bid No. E-04/2025-26, Due Date 30.05.25, Revision 1, Details of Correction: Quantity to be read as 674 sets instead of 459 sets. **All other terms & conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.**

PR/BLW/S-07 **Senior Material Manager**
/blwvaranasi **Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC),
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058.

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE E-TENDER

1. On behalf of President of India, sealed **item rate E-Tenders** are invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works in NIT by Group Head, ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58 (Ph:080-28094541, 28094186)

1	Name of Work	**Refurbishment of Senior Engineers Rooms of Various sections at SCC, ISTRAC, Bengaluru (Electrical Works)**	**Conversion of Old Accounts Office to new CMG Office & refurbishment of existing CMG office near main enterance at SCC Campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru (Electrical Works)**
2	E-tenders Notice	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-23/ 2025-2026 Dated: 22.05.2025**	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-24/ 2025-2026 Dated:22.05.2025**
3	Estimated cost put to tender	**Rs. 20.53 Lakhs**	**Rs. 19.26 Lakhs**
4	Tender Document details	**E-Tenders**	**E-Tenders**
5	Period of completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**Five (05 Months**	
6	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 hrs on 23.05.2025 to 07.06.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
7	Bid clarification	**From 11.00 hrs on 24.05.2025 to 08.06.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
8	Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification	**09.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs**	
9	Last date & time of receipt of tenders	**10.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs**	
10	Due date and time of opening of tenders	**12.06.2025 after 11.00 hrs**	
11	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 41,060.00**	**Rs. 38,520.00**

2. Interested Tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details from website:**www.isro.gov.in.** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ ISRO.**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that Original Sale Deed dated 06/03/2004, registered as Document. No. YAN-1-02392/2004-05 of Book-I, stored in C.D.No.YAND 44 dated 10/05/2004 at the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bangalore and other documents such as Allotment Letter and Possession Certificate has been lost with respect to residential Flat bearing No.461, S-LIG, situated in the First Floor of Block 39 consisting of 1/12 residential apartments constructed on composite property in the layout formed by the Karnataka Housing Board at Yelahanka New Town, 5th phase, Bangalore and a lost report has been lodged at Yelahanka New Town Police Station, bearing report No.1590607/ 2025 dated 03/05/2025. Any person having custody of the said document may hand over the same to Bharath R, whose address is mentioned below. Henceforth Bharath R, being the present owner of the said property shall use the certified copy of the above said document for his future transactions. lodged at Yelahanka New Town Police Station, bearing report No.1590607/ 2025 dated 03/05/2025. Any person having custody of the said document may hand over the same to **Bharath R**, whose address is mentioned below. Henceforth **Bharath R**, being the present owner of the said property shall use the certified copy of the above said document for his future transactions.

Bharath R,
S/o. late M. Rajashekar
No.1155, 10th 'B' Cross, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore – 560 064.

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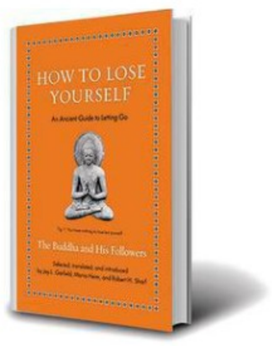
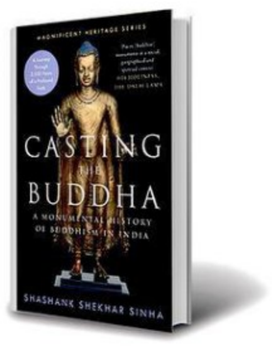
ISSN 0971 - 751X

BIBLIOGRAPHY





GETTY IMAGES

Understanding the social, cultural and geographical contexts of Buddhism

In an era of social media obsession, several writers have turned to Buddhist teachings to underscore the fact that a preoccupation with the self and an 'unremitting' egoism will lead to pain and suffering. Other writers are helping readers discover Buddhism's influence on modern Indian history

Sudhirendar Sharma

The world is increasingly getting obsessed with self-promotion and the thinking that it alone can bring about peace and progress. The growing selfie culture is a manifestation of this daily obsession, backed by the technology of the day. Often, a 'perfect' identity is carefully curated on social media with a focus on the self.

Swayed by the glitter of social media, there appears to be no actual pursuit of knowing the inner self. Eventually, this relentless self-promotion is leading to distress. The fear of having less and the desire for more have contributed to a balance sheet of unhappiness.

The illusory self

It's perhaps the right time to re-read the teachings of the Buddha, who argued thousands of years ago that the self is an illusion -- and that our belief in it is the cause of most, if not all, of our sufferings. Poring over ancient Buddhist texts, Jay L. Garfield, Maria Heim, and Robert H. Sharf have teamed together to dismantle notions of the self in *How To Lose Yourself: An Ancient Guide to Letting Go* (Princeton University Press).

Their suggestion? "Better to lose your self!" The writers contend that Buddha had argued for letting go of the self, which allows us to see more clearly the innumerable causes and conditions that come together to create our experience and that make us who we are. "When we allow our fantasies of self to dissolve, we discover instead the radically interdependent nature of our existence."

Opening up another flank of study on the ancient religion, Douglas Ober contests the commonly held belief that Buddhism "all but disappeared" from India after the 13th and 14th centuries, and saw a revival only in the mid to late 19th century. In his book, *Dust on the Throne* (Navayana), he notes that Buddhism had *always* been there, and that two centuries of archaeological excavation and textual scholarship now point to a long, enduring, and "unarchived" Indian Buddhist afterlife that extends to the modern day. Ober's exhaustive research told him that Buddhism had an indelible influence on shaping modern India.

As he writes in the Introduction, 'A Dependent Arising', the theory of Buddhism's "disappearance" from the subcontinent is "little more than a useful fiction, deployed to wash over a more complicated historical terrain involving periodic Buddhist resurgences and trans-regional pilgrimage networks." He shows that Indian's modern Buddhist revival began nearly a century before 1956, when the Indian government celebrated "2,500 years of Buddhism" and when B.R. Ambedkar led half a million followers to convert to Buddhism.

Backstory of a revival

Ober argues that the "revival of Buddhism" in colonial and postcolonial India led to a slew of movements, from Hindu reform movements, the making of Hindu nationalism, Dalit and anti-caste activism, as also Nehruvian secular democracy. He tells the stories of individuals and communities that kept Buddhism alive, not least the incredible account of J.K. Birla, eldest son of entrepreneur B.D. Birla, who financed major Buddhist constructions in pilgrimage centres like Rajgir, Sarnath, Bodh Gaya, and also in new centres of "urban Buddhist activity", including Calcutta, Bombay, and New Delhi.

While Ghanashyam Birla, J.K. Birla's younger brother, sided with Gandhi and Congress, J.K. and his father firmly supported the extreme Hindu right and the Hindu Maha Sabha, although as Ober notes, "they never stopped supporting Gandhi either."

Efforts to resurrect Buddhist archaeological heritage are an ongoing process to help connect its monumental past with its philosophy.

In his book, *Casting the Buddha* (Pan Macmillan India), Shashank Shekhar Sinha traces the Buddhist heritage sites and the cities they are located in to understand their larger geographical, sociocultural, and historical contexts. It is an illustrated history of Buddhist monuments in India, spanning 2,500 years. For the purposes of this book, Sinha writes in the Introduction, 'monumental history' plays on the word 'monument' and discusses Buddhist edifices, sites, and connected histories.

Lives of monuments

A closer look reveals how the "lives of the monuments" resonated with the people and communities around them, including monks, laity, kings, traders, guilds, landlords, agriculturalists, and villagers.

Over time, these structures have acquired different forms and meanings, and have also become important "sites of social and cultural interactions." The buildings are "complex ecosystems" which capture the changing times and give an idea about belief systems, rituals, stories, and folklore. For instance, writes Sinha, the sculptured panels on the gateways of Sanchi not only depict events from the life of the Buddha but also the Jataka tales and the mythical bodhisattvas.

Ober contends that Buddhism was an indispensable part of the daily lives of Indians from many walks of life. "They spent their days reading and reinterpreting Buddhist scriptures, attending and delivering dhamma talks, building and rebuilding Buddhist shrines." The lives of Ambedkar, Birla, Kosambi, Mahavir, Sankritayan, and many other figures "help us realise that there is no one single identity at the heart of modern Indian Buddhism... [it] continues to have an important but often unacknowledged role in Indian society."

As Indians relived the past to find a better present and future, "a classless, casteless, egalitarian society," they found the Buddha, writes Ober. That as a society we have not yet been able to eradicate discrimination and poverty means the debates on issues like "caste, inequality, morality, social order, and belonging" are not over. The quest to grasp the historical Buddha and understand his 'inherent mission' must continue, and this says a lot about our modern times and predicament.

Sudhirendar Sharma is an independent writer, researcher and academic

THE DAILY QUIZ

Here is a quiz on nuclear science, fission, fusion and key events

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Manaswini Vijayakumar

QUESTION 1

The ___ and the _____ methods are both used to generate supercriticality in a process known as nuclear fission. Fill in the blanks. Hint: the question is about the process, not the weapon.

QUESTION 2

_____ _____ was a programme in the U.S. to develop and use nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes. The first nuclear test under this was called Gnome. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 3

When a nuclear weapon explodes, one of the effects is called the electromagnetic pulse. Gamma radiation collides with air molecules to produce a shower of high-energy electrons. This was first observed in 1962 during the Starfish Prime high-altitude test. This effect is called the _____ _____.

QUESTION 4

At present, there are two ways to create a nuclear bomb. One is by fission, the other by a fusion-fission combination reaction. The only way to create a purely fusion nuclear bomb is to use naturally occurring isotopes that exist in an elevated energetic state. These isotopes are called _____ _____.

QUESTION 5

During the Cold War, in 1955, a document was released in London by two well-known scientists — Nobel laureates in literature and physics, respectively — on the devastating potential of nuclear weaponry. This was called the _____-_____ manifesto. Fill in the blanks.

Visual question:
In 1954, this Soviet facility became the world's first nuclear power plant to generate electricity for a power grid (about 5 MW). Name it. IAEA (CC BY-SA)

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the person who coined biological diversity, and the year it was coined in. **Ans: Walter G Rosen, 1985**
2. Name the multilateral treaty that operates under the framework of the UN. **Ans: Convention on Biological University**
3. Approximately how many species on earth have been discovered? **Ans: 1.2 - 1.5 million (approx)**
4. The closer a region is to X, the more the biodiversity. **Ans: The Equator**
5. The — —- ocean and the — ocean have the most diverse marine ecosystems. **Ans: Western Pacific and Indian**
6. The simplest way to measure biodiversity is what? **Ans: Species richness**
7. What are the regions that are the most biologically rich? Which country has the most of the regions? **Ans: Biodiversity hotspots, Brazil**
8. Species that are unique to a certain geographical area are termed: **Ans: Endemic species**
Visual: This man credited with coming up with the simplest way to measure biodiversity. **Ans: Alexander von Humboldt**
Early Birds: Sukriti Gaur | Shubham Gupta | Lekshmy Harikumar
Manaswini Vijayakumar is an intern at The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

K. Subrahmaniam
S. Upendran

"Hi! Why didn't you show up yesterday?"
"Actually I was on my way here, when I ran into Gopa's cousin from America. He asked...."
"... so, you have finally met the ABCD, have you?"
"ABCD! What are you talking about?"
"ABCD! That's what Indians call their fellow Indians who were born in America. It stands for 'American Born Confused Desi.'"
"A confused Desi! But what are they confused about?"
"Whether to be American or Indian, I suppose."
"You have a point there. Anyway, this guy, Sekhar, Gopa's cousin, he's really nice. In fact, he has even invited me to lunch."
"Really?"
"Yeah. I was surprised too. Yesterday was the first day I met him. We'd talked for only five minutes when he said, 'Let's do lunch some time' and left."
"If that's what he said, you can forget lunch."
"What do you mean?"
"Americans tend to use the expression 'Let's do lunch' some time as a way of ending a conversation."
"You mean it's like saying, 'See you later'?"
"Yes, in a sense, that's what it means. Sekhar has no intention of taking you to lunch."
"That's not fair! Now, I have put off all my plans."
"Put off or call off?"
"What's the difference?"
"Well, when you put off something, you postpone it. For example, the picnic was put off because of the rain."
"The students put off doing their home work because they wanted to watch the Olympics on tv."
"That's a good example. The exams were put off because of the bandh."
"I think I understand what 'put off' means. What does 'call off' mean?"
"When you call off something, you cancel it. For example, the Minister called off the meeting because he was feeling tired."
"The wedding had to be called off because the bride ran away."
"I'm sure that's what is going to happen on the day of your wedding. The bride is going to run away."
"No sensible girl is going to run away from me."
"On the contrary, only a sensible girl would run away from you!"
"O.K.! O.K.! Let's not get too personal. What happened to all your furniture? Why is there so few furniture around?"
"How many times do I have to tell you, 'furniture' is an uncountable noun. You cannot use 'few' with it. You have to use...."
"... 'little' I know! I know! I just keep forgetting, that's all. Why is there so little furniture?"
"My friend is having a party, so he's borrowed most of my furniture."
"What's the occasion?"
"His cousin from England has come and...."
"... is he a BBCD?"
"BBCD?"
"A British Born Confused Desi!"
Published in The Hindu on August 13, 1996

Word of the day

Excoriate:
express strong disapproval of

Synonyms: criticise, scold, decry

Usage: *They excoriated the movie for its weak plot.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/excoriatedpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪkskɔːriːeɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Actor files rape complaint against TV artist

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Annaporneshwarinagar police on Wednesday registered a case against a TV artist on the charges of rape, blackmail, and cheating his colleague on the pretext of marrying her.

According to the complaint, the victim met the accused, identified as Madenur Manu, during a comedy show on a private TV channel in 2018.

The duo used to visit different cities for private shows. For such event, they had gone to Shivamogga where the accused, on the pretext of giving the renumeration allegedly came to her room and raped her.

He then allegedly promised to marry her. The accused is married and has a child, the victim said in her complaint. The victim also alleged that she paid him lakhs of rupees for his movie venture.

Pub robbery: Barman arrested from Odisha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Subramanyanagar police on Thursday arrested a 29-year-old barman who allegedly barged into Geometry brewery and kitchen and made away with cash after threatening the watchman in the wee hours of Monday.

The accused, M. Dileep Kumar, a native of Odisha, wasarrested from his home town. According to the police, he came to Bengaluru in search of a job and worked in different bars for a few months.

भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान बेंगलूर
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT BANGALORE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

NIT No NIIMB/EOI/UG/PMC(CPSU)/2025-26/01

Applications, in the prescribed format, are invited for Appointment of Project Management Consultancy services from Central Public sector units for construction of Phase-1 sustainable undergraduate campus for IIMB New Campus at Survey no 47, Mahanthalingapura Village, Jigani-hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.
For details, refer the link: **https://www.iimb.ac.in/tender_notices**

Project Manager, IIMB

बी ई एम एल **BEML LIMITED**
(CIN: L35202KA1964GOI001530)
(A Govt. of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)
BANGALORE COMPLEX, POST BOX: 7501,
NEW THIPPASANDRA POST, BANGALORE-560075

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e tender through BEML SRM Portal

BEML LIMITED, BANGALORE COMPLEX invites Public Tender-E mode (TWO Bid System)

Civil works tender ref: **6300039502**

Work Description : Construction of Main Storage Shed, Bonded ware House, Office Building, Toilet Block and Electrical works & Crane installation & commissioning.

work at Eastern side of Production Hangars at Bangalore Complex, BEML Limited, Bangalore.

Approx. estimated value : Rs. 9,90,**00,000/- inclusive of GST**

EMD amount : Rs. 19,80,000/-.

Period of contract: 12 Months.

Last date & time for submission of bids : 09.06.2025 at 14.00 Hrs.

Further details of tender can be obtained from following website: **https://www.bemlindia.in/tenders/active-tenders/ Bangalore complex SRM Portal : https://bemlindia.in/eprocurement/index.php**

Bidders are advised to visit above websites frequently for any corrigendum, extension, etc.

The management has the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereon.

Sd/- Asst. General Manager

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
of Karnataka

Department of Health and Family Welfare

Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister
of Karnataka

Chemotherapy treatment at your District Hospital

Launch of Day Care Chemotherapy centres in District Hospitals

Inauguration: Sri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

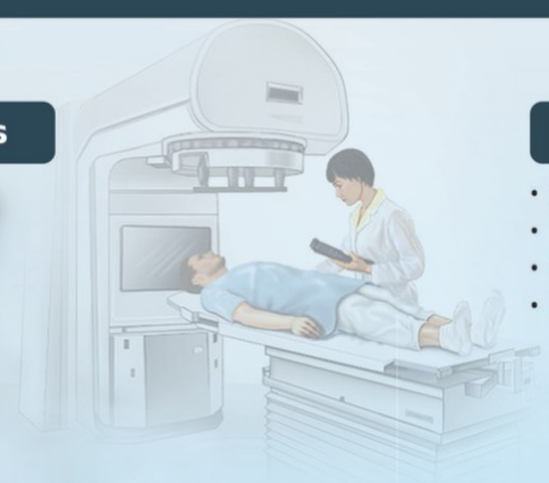
Venue: District hospital, Metagalli, Mysuru

Date: 23-05-2025 Time: 5:00 PM

Services Provided at Day Care Chemotherapy Units

- Outpatient chemotherapy for stable patients
- Pain management
- Counseling
- Telemedicine consultations with tertiary hospitals
- Specialist and staff support as needed

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, and Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Mysuru District In-charge, Shri H.C. Mahadevappa, participating in a program.



Benefits of Day Care Chemotherapy Units

- Reduced travel and hospitalization costs
- Decrease in untreated cancer cases
- Early diagnosis and timely treatment
- Helps bridge the urban–rural gap in cancer care

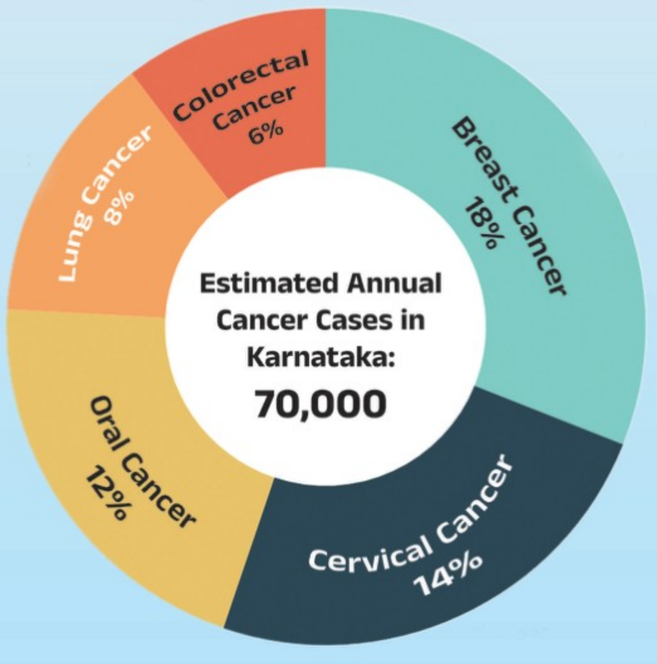
Hub & Spoke Model

Hub Hospitals
(SAST registered tertiary cancer centres)

- **Clinical services** (complex treatment delivery, chemotherapy administration, advanced biopsies) - Support for pathology and radiology at spoke centers
- **Training and capacity building**
- **Referral, telemedicine and medicine supply to spoke centers**
- **Quality assurance and monitoring**

Spoke Centers
(District Day Care Chemotherapy Units)

- **Coordination with hubs** (referral systems, identifying and transferring patients needing surgery/radiation, real-time referrals)
- **Patient care** (chemotherapy administration, supportive/palliative chemo, pre-chemo workups, basic lab tests like CBC, LFT, RFT, ECG monitoring)
- **Supportive services and palliative care**
- **Distribution of medicines to patients**



It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India

Your Health, Our Priority

M BG-BGE

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, BALANGIR
WOMEN'S COLLEGE CHOWK,PALACE LINE, DIST-BALANGIR, PIN-767001
ODISHA INTEGRATED IRRIGATION PROJECT FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE(OIIPCRA)
(WORLD BANK PROJECT ID: PI63533)

REQUEST FOR BIDS(RFB) E Procurement Notice
NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT FOR SMALL WORKS
RFB No. OIIPCRA-W2-BGR-1/2025-26 Date. 20.05.2025

Name of work	Balance work for "Improvement (Renovation). to Mayabati MIP in Patnagarh Block of Balangir District under OIIPCRA. Package ID: BGR-8 of 1(One) Minor Irrigation Project"
No of Works	01 Minor Irrigation Project
Estimated Cost	Rs.226.07 Lakh Approx
Cost of Bid Document	Free of Cost
Period of Completion	As per DTCN
Availability of bid documents	From 26.05.2025 from 10.00 Hrs to 25.06.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs. in the e-procurement website (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)
Date of Pre-Bid Meeting	04.06.2025 As per Para-7 of DTCN
Last date & time of receipt of bid	Up to 25.06.2025, 15.00 Hrs. through Online.
Period of receipt of bid security	To be paid online along with the bid. Bank Guarantees also acceptable subject to verification.
Date of opening of technical bid	On dt: 26.06.2025 at 11.00 Hrs.
Date of opening of financial bid	To be intimated online after off-line evaluation of Technical Bid
Digital signature certificate of Bidder	The bidder must possess compatible digital signature certificate (DSC) of Class-II or III.
The detail tender call notice can also be seen in the DOWR website	https://dowrodisha.gov.in ; https://octdms.in
Name & address of the OIT:-	Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division, Balangir, Women's college chowk, Palace Line, Dist.: Balangir, Pin 767001, E-Mail:- mid_balangir@yahoo.co.in
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement market place in	https://tendersodisha.gov.in

Superintending Engineer, M.I.Division, Balangir
A-210: OIPR-32063/11/0015/2526

RAJIV GANDHI HOUSING CORPORATION LTD.
Cauvery Bhavan, 9th Floor, E&F Block, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009. Phone : 080-23118888/22106888

Dated: 22.05.2025

Short Term Tender Notification (Through KPPP portal)

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited invites Short Term tenders for the following works through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from the eligible contractors.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender [Excluding GST] (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Rs. (in Lakhs)
1	Construction of Staff Quarters at 6 Locations (1-BHK Block & 2-BHK Block At Each Location in G+2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Minorities Morarji Desai Residential School Campus in Different Talukas of Kalaburgi and Yadgiri District– **Package – 5** (Jewargi-1, Afzalpur-1, Chincholi-1, Kalaburgi-1, Shahapur-1, Yadgiri-1) **(Fixed Price No Variation)"** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT13/CALL-2**	2994.02	29.94
2	Construction of Staff Quarters at 3 Locations (1-BHK Block & 2-BHK Block At Each Location in G+2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Minorities Morarji Desai Residential School Campus in Different Talukas of Vijayanagara District – **Package – 7** (Harapanahalli-1, Hosapete-2) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT15/CALL-2**	1497.01	14.97
3	Construction of Staff Quarters at 7 Locations (1-BHK Block & 2-BHK Block At Each Location in G+2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Minorities Morarji Desai Residential School Campus in Different Talukas of Raichur District – **Package – 8** (Lingasuguru-1, Manvi-1, Raichur-3, Sindhanur-2) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT16/CALL-2**	3493.02	34.93
4	Construction of Staff Quarters at 3 Locations (1-BHK Block & 2-BHK Block At Each Location in G+2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Minorities Morarji Desai Residential School Campus in Different Talukas of Dharwad and Gadag Districts – **Package – 9** (Dharwad-1, Mundaragi-2) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT17/CALL-4**	1482.37	14.82
5	Construction of Staff Quarters at 4 Locations (1-BHK Block & 2-BHK Block At Each Location in G+2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Minorities Morarji Desai Residential School Campus in Different Talukas of Uttara Kannada, Shimoga and Dakshina Kannada Districts – **Package – 10** (Dandeli-1, Shikaripura-1, Ullal-2) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT18/CALL-4**	2095.91	20.95
6	Construction of Moulana Azad Model School / College (02 No's) in different Taluk of Kodagu and Bangalore Rural Districts" – G+2 truss and galvanized and poly carbonate sheet roofing works at second floor - **Package – 2** (Kushalanagar - 1, Nelamangala - 1) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT22/CALL-3**	846.98	8.46
7.	Construction of Moulana Azad Model School / College (04 No's) in different Taluk of Kalaburgi and Bidar Districts" – G+2 truss and galvanized and poly carbonate sheet roofing works at second floor - **Package – 5** (Malakhed Sedam - 1, Sedam – 1, Humanabad-1, Chitaguppa-1) **(Fixed Price No Variation)** **Indent No: RGRHCL/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT25/CALL-3**	1655.05	16.55

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF BID: 06-06-2025

Further information visit : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, https://ashraya.karnataka.gov.in/**

DIPR/CP/YC/818/2025-26 **Sd/- General Manager (S D)**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA
No.EE:PWD:CTA:JE-1:Tender-09:2025-26 Dated:- 21.05.2025

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from registered Contractors in KPWD for the following work through KPPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.

Name of work:- One cover System:- Head of Account 8443 Deposit Contribution:- (1) CONSTRUCTION OF BOX CULVERT AND APPROACH ROAD TO IRRIGATION CANAL AT CHAINAGE 0.45 KM OF PATREHALLI-PILALI-DASUDI ROAD IN HIRYURU TALUK (W.I. 21814) Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:-55.00

(2) Repairs to Tahsildar office Building in Chitradurga Town (W.I. 21745) Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:- 10.00

Tenders dates are as mentioned below: Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 28-05-2025 Time: 17.30
Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 29-05-2025 Time: 16.00
Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 30-05-2025 Time: 16.15
Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/ 93/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD, Chitradurga.**

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Shivamooga District, Shivamogga.
PHONE: - 08182-271101/221010/222082; /FAX: - 277082;
E-MAIL: - ka.shivamogga.dudc@gmail.com
NO. SMGDC.DUDC/PLAN/15/89862/2022 Date: 21.05.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Executive Engineer, District urban development cell, Shivamogga invites tenders from the eligible tenderers, for the construction of works detailed in the table below. Two cover tender document procedure as per KPPP rules 2000 shall be followed.

1. Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-procurement website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. **2**. Tenders must be electronically submitted in e-procurement portal. **3**. Further information, if required, can be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, DUDC, DC office, Shivamogga during working hours. **4**. Head of account: Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality)-4

Sl.no. 1. Name of Work: Construction of Food Court the near Flag Post Ganapati lake park and Old bus Stop Premises of Jog Road, Improvements of Park and Infrastructure Work to MLAS Model School at Belalamakki HPS, Construction of Bus Stop in Rani Chennamma Circle and Circle Improvements, Construction of Chain Link Fencing near Walking Track in Nehru Ground and Construction of Samudhaya Bhavana in Lohia Nagar in Sagara CMC Limits Under Amruth Nagarothana Municipality Phase-4 Project. (DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT39506) **Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs):** 84.44 (Excluding GST) **E.M.D. (Rs. in Lakhs):** 1.69 **Period of completion**: 9 Months (excluding Rainy Season)

Sl.no. 2. Name of Work: Shifting Of Poles from Channagiri Road Bypass to Nrupatunga Circle in TP Holehonnur Limits Under Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Project. (DMA/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT36349/CALL-2) **Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs):** 14.46 (Excluding GST) **E.M.D. (Rs. in Lakhs):** 0.37 **Period of completion**: 4 Months

1. Pre-bid meeting (Venue-DUDC office) : 28.05.2025 TIME 11:30 AM **2**. Last date & Time for receipt of tenders: 06.06.2025 5:30 PM **3.** Date & Time for opening of Technical bid: 09.06.2025 11.00 AM **4.** Date & Time for opening of Financial bid: 16.06.2025 11:00 AM or later

Change in calendar of events (if any) will be published in kpp portal only. Paper notification will not be given.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, District urban development cell, DC Officce, Shivamogga District.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/144/05/296

THE FEDERAL BANK LIMITED
Regd. Office: Aluva, Kerala.

ZONAL OFFICE: 2nd Floor, Halcyon Complex, No.9, St Marks Road, Bangalore-560 001.
e-mail: bgrr-cpc@federalbank.co.in Phone: 080-22074610/604/613/624/625

BGRR/PvtSale/2025-26 **NOTICE FOR PRIVATE SALE OF GOLD** 22/05/2025

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold Ornaments pledged in the following Gold Loan accounts, with the under mentioned Branches of the Bank, which are overdue for redemption and which have not been regularized so far in spite of repeated notices, will be put for Private sale, in the respective Branches on any date after 10-06-2025 as shown below:

Br. Belthangadi: Suvarna Arcade, Belthangadi, Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka- 574 214, Ph no. 08256-232404 :- 19016400094210, 19016400093162,19016400070707,19016400103128,19016400080540,19016400103649,19016400105172,19016400103656,19016400094012,19016100009260.

Br. Bhatkal: Misbah Chambers, Ranginkatta, NH 17, Bhatkal, Uttar Kannada, Karnataka- 581 320 :-
19866400085000,19866400062538,19866400110063,19866400103712,19866100012296,19866400074343,19866400110451,19866400109040,19866400104777, 19866400110576,19866400107671,19866400115765,19866400111905,19866400113281,19866400108208,19866400099852,19866400112325,19866400118264, 19866400114933,19866400120047,19866400111970,19866400113430,19866400098284,19866400092493,19866400094572,19866400116102,19866400109024, 19866400093194,19866400112200,19866400120435,19866400115021,19866400115997,19866400116805,19866400094382,19866400111087,19866400116011, 19866400112440,19866400102284,19866400115260,19866100012858,19866400112473,19866400107796,19866400121771,19866400104876,19866400096692, 19866400113968,19865500005637,19866400116342,19866400112630,19866400106087,19866400115146,19866400120807,19866400116995,19866400113950, 19866100013401,19866400121615,19866400112689,19866400113927,19866100014441,19866400116334,19866400120492,19866400120120,19866100014458, 19866400093517,19866400112705,19866400102235,19866400114230,19866400107994,19866400112903,19866400100338,19866400115112,19866400092030, 19866400113539,19866400102458,19866400115245,19866400116698,19866100013468,19866400103266,19866400115344,19866400078377,19866400113026, 19866400114735,19866400115385,19866400088681,19866400077734,19866400114750,19866400115401,19866400104728,19866400078062,19866400061795, 19866400115443,19866400116706,19866400069459,19866400102771,19867600001250,19866400104967,19866400090794,19866400119486,19866400104579, 19866400116946,19866400094135,19866400114859,19866400099860,19866400116953,19866400097708,19866400114875,19866400102045,19866400116953, 19866400113158,19866100012502,19866400102052,19866400098912,19866400100817,19866400103563.

Br. Chikmagalur: P B No 157, BM Buildings, Thogarihenkal Circle, K M Road, Chikmagaluru, Karnataka- 577 101, Ph no. 08262-233024 :-
13566100436588,13566400242199,13566400245606,13566400252982,13566100437131,13566400232414,13566400241696,13566100438626,13566400250069, 13566100437685,13566400240995,13566400185224,13566400245424,13566400246927,13566400226705,13566400200320,13566400245432,13566400201773, 13566400244690,13566400212721,13566400243411,13566400193889,13566400254863,13566400230459,13566400239948,13566400207325,13566400246984, 13566400234758,13566100438147,13566400248295,13566400230467,13566400234907,13566400227372,13566400193954,13566400240441,13566400236159, 13566400250648,13566400230004,13566400250150,13566400244013,13566400250655,13566400211103,13566400251430,13566400245291,13566400252271, 13566400230285,13566400229097,13566400246554,13566400242298,13566400243486,13566400242801,13566400243510,13566400242306,13566400248725, 13566400225525,13566400243189,13566400251380,13566400248832,13566400225533,13566400240979,13566400257130,13566400190976,13566400232265, 13566400244328,13566400243007,13566400191206,13566400256900,13566400243023,13566400181611,13566400227547,13566400203787,13566400243577, 13566400184813,13566400228420,13566400241589,13566100435978,13566400225566,13566400249129,13566400246075,13566400255365,13566400250499, 13566400249137,13566400220658,13566400220930.

Br. Channarayapatna: Ground Floor, Madhu Complex, Mysore Road, Channarayapatna, Hassan, Karnataka-573 116, Ph. No. 08176-252438:- 19876400137800,19876400143261,19876400121747,19876400145159,19876400141109.

Br. Gonikopal: Sudharma Building, Near Masjid, Ponnampet Road Jn, Main Road, Gonikoppal, Kodagu, Karnataka- 571 213 :- 19616400139533,19616400140093,19616400135176,19616400148419,19616400138675,19616400142842,19616400125946,19616400129526.

Br. Hebri: Spatika Plaza, Kuchoor Road, Hebri, Karkala Taluk, Udupi, Karnataka- 576 112, Ph No. 08253-250045 :-
18966400032241,18966400025559,18966400026516,18966400024933,18966400030609,18966400026508,18966400024925,18966400031045,18966100006610, 18966400021822,18966400032076,18966100006859,18966400021889,18966400032084,18966400023042,18966400025245,18966400032902,18966400023307, 18966400033256,18966400033314,18966400032928,18966400030997,18966400019420,18966400032936,18966400031177,18966400030930,18966400030971, 18966100006867,18966400031961,18966400032209,18966400033058,18966400029650,18966100006941,18966400015519,18966400033264,18966400032019, 18966400028512,18966100006412,18966400032969.

Br. Hassan: Ground Floor, St. Antony's Church Complex, NR Circle, HN Pura Road, Hassan, Karnataka- 573 201 :-
13546400277080,13546400326218,13546400317381,13546400332869,13546400341399,13546400269996,13546400328271,13546400302938,13546400341449, 13546400338445,13546400302557,13546400301864,13546400226111,13546400341431,13546400337769,13546400324775,13546400328644,13546400226103, 13546400326200,13546400295736,13546400321896,13546400303092,13546400296643,13546400326689,13546400328453,13546400327448,13546400299399, 13546400302854,13546400334022,13546400325251,13546400322365,13546400298672,13546400298847,13546400311418,13546400252042,13546400323660, 13546400319882,13546400305576,13546400314941,13546400326812,13546400264328,13546400302201,13546400271596,13546400293897,13546400300114, 13546400325202,13546400326598,13546400288848,13546400332471,13546400302391,13546400302045,13546400301617,13546400271323,13546400333263, 13546400321649,13546400327000,13546400278369,13546400272818,13546400326838,13546400321995,13546400326960,13546400325103,13546400327059, 13546400263783,13546400328123,13546400333826,13546400330236,13546400322613,13546400322266,13546400327851,13546400324163.

Br. Kadur: Dr Vishwanath Building, Maravanji Circle, BH Road, Kadur, Chikmagalur- 577 548 Karnataka, Ph no. 08267-221244 :-
18936400059890,18936400061359,18936400063843,18936400056326,18936400040510,18936400062480,18936400039777,18936400043217,18936400059718, 18936400059676,18936400050006,18936400032038,18936400043217,18936400062654,18936400057407,18936400063280,18936400045998,18936400063926, 18936400056326,18936400040312,18935500007809,18936400063934,18936400043217,18936400040320,18936400062092,18936400064007,18936400032038, 18936400063843,18936400032210,18936400064015,18936400056904,18936400056904,18936400034844,18936400064171,18936400059254,18936400059254, 18936400053653,18936400057423,18936400058371,18936100026579,18936400058553,18936100027791,18936400058470,18936700001881,18936400062753, 18936400049123,18936400059536,18936400058553,18936700001816,18936400053927,18936400049883,18936400032210,18936700001857,18936400063355, 18935500007676,18936400059676,18936700001881,18936400042805,18936400066010,22976400062001,18936400057837,18936400056326,18936400059577, 18936400043217,18936400057431,18936100024988,18936400057894,18936400056326,18936400059908,18936100026579,18936400057902,18936400032038, 18936400063140,18936400061045,18936400059296,18936400063280,18936400059874,18936400040312,18936600001288,18936400056904,18936400063132, 18936400040320,18936400040999,18936400059254,18935500004194,18936400052465,18936400059452,18936400059676,22976400062001.

Bangalore 22-05-2025 Vice President & Zonal Head

(Govt of Karnataka)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.W.D DIVISION SEDAM
No. EE/PWD/Dvn/Sed/TS-1/2025-26/497 Date : 20-05-2025

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Details of Works : 2. Total no of work 01 in Chittapur Taluka : EXPRESSION OF INTREST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INDOOR STADIUM (BALANCE WORK) AT NEW TOWN WADI, CHITTAPURA TALUK, KALABURAGI DIST. Under KKRDB MICRO 2024-25, 2) Head of Account : Under K.K.R.D.B For the year 2024-25, 3) Tender is valid upto: **06-06-2025 - 16:30:00 Hrs**, 3) Last Date and Time for Tender Query: **27-05-2025 - 16:30:00 Hrs,** 4) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **30-05-2025-16:00:00 Hrs,** 5) Date and Time for Opening of Bid: **31-05-2025 - 16:30:00 Hrs,** 6) Communication Address: Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D Division Sedam, 7) Internet Address: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in, 8) If any changes for Cancelation: Any Changes and cancelations are done in www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Note: 1) The undersigned has to power to postponement/rejecting the tenders, 2) If any changes are there in upcoming days These Tenders are not published in tender bulletin it should be read in https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal

DIPR/Kalaburagi/138/KSMC&A/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.D Division Sedam**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ರಾಯಚೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ರಾಯಚೂರು–584101
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, RAICHUR DISTRICT, RAICHUR-584101
District Administration Building, Eklaspur, Raichur
Telephone No:08532-229011, Fax:08532-229012, eMail ID:dcrevrcr@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಜಿಕಾರಾ::Jurala-Surplus Fund/01/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ 13–05–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ.

1)ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ವಿವರ:**Placing Surplus Fund in the Fixed Deposit.** ಮೊತ್ತ:ರೂ.**4800–00**ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು. **Card Rates quotetion** ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **31.05.2025 @ 17.30 pm.**

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ಸ್ಥಳ, ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **The Regional / Zonal/ Head Offices of Banks only shall participate and no individual bank branch shall participate in Card Rates/Quotation.**

DIP/RCR/126/KSMC&A/126/2025-26 ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ರಾಯಚೂರು.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PANCHAYATH RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION CHANNARAYAPATTANA
ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08176–252749

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION NO 08/2025-26 DATED:- 20.05.2025

The tender are invited by the Executive Engineer,Panchayath Raj Engineering Division Channarayapattana on be-half of the Governor of Karnataka through KPPP portal for work of CONSTRUCTION OF CC ROAD AND DRAIN IN KHALIPATH CO SEEMA HOUSE TO AKHIBBANU AND PARITHABASU-NORUDDIN HOUSE IN MARAGODANAHALLI REHABITATION VILLAGE,MUNEER AND OTHER MUSLIMS HOUSE NEAR MASJID IN MARAGODANAHALLI KOPPALU, NEAR DARGA IN MACHAGOWDANAHALLI, NEAR BABANA HOUSE TO MOHAMMADD HOUSE IN BORANAHALLI BADAVANE, SHANTHARAJU HOUSE TO GONDI ROAD IN ULIVALA VILLAGE, NEAR MUJAMILL HOUSE IN MUSLIM BADAVANE IN JANDAL VILLAGE, NEAR NISSAR AHMADD HOUSE IN PADUVALAHIPPE VILLAGE, GAYAS HOUSE TO JARINUMMA HOUSE IN MUSLIM BADAVANE IN DODDABYGATHAVALLI VILLAGE IN HOLENARASIPURA TALUK RDPR/2024-25/RD/WORK_ INDENT13276/CALL-2 TENDER AMOUNT:- RS 88.94 LAKHS (EXCLUDING GST) which are sanctioned under the head of account of 2024-25TH MINORITY DEPARTMENT FUND The work details are available in the KPPP portal. THE IMPORTANT DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications 05.06.2025 17.00 hours Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders 06.06.2025 17.00 hours Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid 09.06.2025 11.00 hours Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid After approval of Technical bid Note:-The right is reserved to reject or cancel the any or all tenders at any stage without assign any reason thereof

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/126/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26 **sd/-Executive Engineer PRE DIvisin, Channarayapattana**

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS, PORTS & INLAND WATER TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CHAMARAJANAGARA DIVISION, CHAMARAJANAGARA
Phone/Fax : 08226-222027 e-mail : eecnr@kpwd.gov.in / pwdeechngr@gmail.com

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only)
(Two Cover System : Section-1-Technical Bid and Section-2-Financial Bid)
Short Term Tender Notification No 04/2025-26 Dated : 17-05-2025 (Call-2)

Item rate tenders are invited through e-procurement portal only on behalf of Governor of Karnataka from Eligible registered civil Contractor in KPWD in Standard Bid document **KW-3,** form The Total no of works is 1, **H/A : 5054-03-337-0-17-160 SH Renival Works** maximum estimated cost is Rs. 65.00 lakhs, Further changes in this Notification will be published in E-Procurement Only. Date of events as follows :

1	Date and Time for downloading the tender document from the e-procurement portal	From 17-05-2025 to 26-05-2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.
2	Downloading the tender document from the Last Date and Time	26-05-2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.
3	Date & Time for opening of Technical bid	27-05-2025 after 16.30 Hrs.
4	Date & Time for opening of Financial bid	30-05-2025 after 16.00 Hrs.

More information can be had from the web site : **https ://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.

DIPR : CHANAGAR:87:2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Chamarajanagar.**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕನೀನಿ, ಕಳಸಾ ಯೋಜನೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಖಾನಾಪೂರ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ–591302
Office (ಕಛೇರಿ):08336–222163 e-mail :eekpdkhanapur@gmail.com

ಸಂ: ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ಕಯೋವಿ/ಖಾನಾಪೂರ/ಯೋ–ಶಾ/2025–26/261 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.05.2025

–: ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :–

ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಉಚಗಾಂವ ಕೆರೆ ತುಂಬಿಸುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ತುರಮರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಮಾರ್ಕಂಡೇಯ ನದಿಗೆ ಜಾಕವೆಲ್ ಕಂ ಪಂಪ್ ಹೌಸ್ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಬಸುರ್ತಾ (ಉಚಗಾಂವ) ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಹದ್ದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಜಲಸಂಗ್ರಹಗಾರವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂತಿಬಸ್ತವಾಡ ಕೆರೆ ತುಂಬಿಸುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಖಾನಾಪೂರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಕುಸಮಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಮಲಪ್ರಭಾ ನದಿಗೆ ಜಾಕವೆಲ್ ಕಂ ಪಂಪ್ ಹೌಸ್ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಖಾಸಗಿ ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು ನೇರ ಖರೀದಿ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.05.2025ರಂದು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಭೂ ಖರೀದಿ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ನಿರ್ಧರಣಾ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಇವರ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜರುಗಿದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಭೂ ಖರೀದಿ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ನಿರ್ಧರಣಾ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ತಾಲೂಕ	ಗ್ರಾಮ	ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ	ರಿ.ಸಂ.ನಂ.	ದರ ನಿರ್ಧರಣಾ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದರಗಳು
1	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	ಬಸುರ್ತಾ (ಉಚಗಾಂವ)	77ಎ–22 ಗುಂ–00ಆಣೆ	253/1 ರಿಂದ 3, 254/*, 255/* ರಿಂದ 255/ಪರಡೆ 256/1 ರಿಂದ 5, 201/* ರಿಂದ 201/ಪರಡೆ, 202/ಪೈಕಿ, 189/* ರಿಂದ 189/ ಪರಡೆ, 199/* ರಿಂದ 199/ಪರಡೆ, 191/* ರಿಂದ 191/ಪರಡೆ, 200/* ರಿಂದ 1ಪೈಕಿ ಮತ್ತು 1, 190/*, 206/*	ಪ್ರತಿ ಎಕರೆಗೆ ರೂ 88,00,000/– (ರೂ. ಎಂಭತ್ತೇಂಟು ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ)
2	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	ತುರಮುರಿ	03ಎ–28 ಗುಂ–00ಆಣೆ	126, 127, 128 ಮತ್ತು 129	ಪ್ರತಿ ಎಕರೆಗೆ ರೂ 50,00,000/– (ರೂ. ಐವತ್ತು ಲಕ್ಷ ಮಾತ್ರ)
3	ಖಾನಾಪೂರ	ಕುಸಮಳ್ಳಿ	01ಎ–22 ಗುಂ–00ಆಣೆ	108/1 ರಿಂದ 108/4	ಪ್ರತಿ ಎಕರೆಗೆ ರೂ 50,00,000/– (ರೂ. ಐವತ್ತು ಲಕ್ಷ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ದರ ನಿರ್ಧರಣಾ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿರುವ ದರದಂತೆ ಜಮೀನು ಖರೀದಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು 30 ದಿನಗಳ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಅಂದರೆ 22.06.2025ರ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಲಿಖಿತ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಕಳಸಾ ಯೋಜನೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಖಾನಾಪೂರ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ–591302

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-299/KSMCA/2025-26

Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri
(Government of Karnataka - Reg. Autonous Institute)
Phone : 08272-220606 Website : www.kimskodagu.kar.nic.in

Ref: No. ME/2025-26/IND : 1441 Date: 20-05-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Under signed invites e-tender notification in two Bid system from eligible Manufactures / Suppliers / Authorized Dealers through e-procurement portal GOK, **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** with EMD for the supply of Consumbles to Teaching Hospital, KOIMS, Madikeri, for more information contact e-procurement portal or office of the undersigned.

e-mail: directormckodagu@gmail.com

Sd/- Dean & Director, KOIMS, Madikeri

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar, Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru-56.

No.: BU/E-Gov/Tenders-ADV-01/2025-26 Date: 21.05.2025

E-Tender Notification

Bangalore University invites bids for the following tenders through **Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.** Details of the tenders are available at e-procurement platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bids are to be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bidders are requested to adhere to the time schedule prescribed in the tender.

Sl No.	Description of the Tender
1	Supply of Gold Medals for the 60th Annual Convocation
2	Upgradation of Museum & Other Renovation Works at Basavalingappa Institute for Development Studies (B-Bids) at Jnanabharati Campus, Bangalore University
3	Establishment of Clean room facility with Air Curtains, Air Showers and Air Conditioners to the Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology under VGST project

DIPR/CP/803/SSC/2025-26 Sd/- REGISTRAR

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
Construction & Maintenance Division
LPSC Campus, 80 Ft. Road, HAL II Stage,
Bengaluru -560 008. Ph:080-25037203/080-25037214

22.05.2025

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, item rate tenders are invited for the following work:

Name of work	**Construction of Intergrated Information Technology (IT) Annex Building (Vertical Extension 3rd Floor, Block-B, Main Building) at LPSC(B) Campus, Bengaluru-Civil & PH Works**
Tender Notice No.	**LPSC(B)/CMD/01/1002/C/MJ/001/ 2025-26 Dated: 20.05.2025**
Estimated Amount	**₹135.14 Lakhs**
Period of completion	**07 (Seven) Months**
Sale Period	**From 22.05.2025 to 03.06.2025**
Earnest Money Deposit [EMD]	**₹2,70,280/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer **www.tenderwizard.com/ ISRO.** Also detailed Notice Invting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from **www.isro.gov.in, www.lpsc.gov.in**

Sd/- Head CMD, LPSC(B)

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of Executive Engineer, Road infrastructure- Mahadevapura Division, No 97/D, 2nd Floor, Krishna Shine Building, Old Airport Road, Maratahall Bridge, Bengaluru-560037.

No: EE/RI/MPura/TEND/01/2024-25/call-2 DATE: 22.05.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

(Short Term Tender Notification) Call-2 (Two cover system).
(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure Mahadevapura, BBMP, invites proposals on behalf of the Chief Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru. Consultancy services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for the work of "Construction of ROB cum extended Viaduct at km 195/700-800 for 150 feet CDP road near Panathur in Mahadevapura constituency".

S.N.	Name of the work
1	Consultancy services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for the work of "Construction of ROB cum extended Viaduct at km 195/700-800 for 150 feet CDP road near Panathur in Mahadevapura constituency call-2 **EMD :** Rs.5.00 Lakhs.

Notes: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal from 23.05.2025. 2) Pre bid meeting will be held on 02.06.2025 at 16.00 hours. 3) Last date for receipt of Queries is 02.06.2025. at 11.00 hours. 4) Last Date for receipt of Tenders on 06.06.2025 upto 16.00 p.m. 5) Technical Bids will be opened on 09.06.2025 at 16.00 hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Road infrastructure- Mahadevapura Division

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, Procurement Section,
CESC, Mysuru-570017. Telephone: 9448994705
Email: gmpurc@cescmysore.org **Website:** www.cescmysore.org

No: CESC/GM(P)/DGM(P)/AGM(P-2)/2025-26/4976 Date : 22.05.2025

Short Term Tender Notification (KPP Portal Only)

CESC, Mysore invites Short Term Tenders from eligible bidders for supply of T&P as mentioned below:

Sl.No.	Services & Materials	Enquiry No./Date
1.	Supply of Telescopic Tree pruner as per Specification to CESC.	C2-6232/ 22-05-2025

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **28-05-2025.** For clarification contact help desk +91-8046010000, +91-8068948777 or e-mail address **support@eprochelpdesk.com.**

For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912

Sd/- General Manager (Procurement), CESC, Mysuru.

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/241/2025-26

BANGALORE MYSORE INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR AREA PLANNING AUTHORITY
No.5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560009.
Tel: 080-22341230/35 E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No:BMICAPA/CLU-01/107/2024-25 /275 Date: 22.05.2025

PUBLICATION

(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Smt Rajeshwari W/o Subramanya has applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Residential"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No:123/14 extent of 00 Acre-18 Guntas (including 00Acre-02Gunta A Karab) and Sy.No:123/15 extent of 00Acre-35 Guntas, Sy.No:123/17 extent of 00Acre-12 Guntas, Sy.No:123/18 extent of 00Acre-27 Guntas totally measuring 02Acre-12Guntas of B.M.Kaval Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid lands are reserved for **Agriculture zone** in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;

1) **By developing the layout in the above said lands the poor and middle Class people will get the sites for reasonable price.**
2) **During the development works of the layout there will be opportunity of employment for labourers.**
3) **Surrounding areas will be developed by developing the Layout in the above said lands.**
4) **By development of planned layout, the public are benefited with the civic amenities such as good roads, parks etc.**

Objections, if any, are invited from the public, any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the above address mentioned in this publication within 15 days from this notice. Any objections received after stipulated time will not be considered.

DIPR/CP/AAA/810/2025-26

Member Secretary, B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/Tr(Op)ZB/SEE(O)/AE-1/2025-26/1692-94 Date:21.05.2025

Short-term Tender Notification (Through KPP Portal only)

KPTCL invites bid against the following enquiries;

(1) Bid enquiry No:KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/01, for Conducting detailed survey for strengthening of existing 400kV Nelamanagala-Devanahalli & Nelamangala Signayakanahalli (Yelahanka)-Devanahalli DC lines from Twin MOOSE ACSR to HPC Twin conductor running on 400kV DC Towers passing in Nelamangala, Doddaballapura, Yelahanaka & Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Urban & Rural district.

(2) Bid enquiry No:KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/02, for Conducting detailed survey for strengthening of 220kV PGCIL-Chintamani line by replacement of Drake by HTLS conductor from 220kV PGCIL to 220kV receiving station Chintamani in Chintamani Taluk, Chikkaballapura District.

The Bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging into **Karnataka Public Procurement (KPP) Portal website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **26.05.2025**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., Transmission(Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Anandrao Circle, Bengaluru-560009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that we, Mr. Ali Muhammad Jan and Mr.Muhammed Muaz Jan, intends to enter into transactional document/s with respect to property situated at Maragondanahalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, which is more particularly described in the "Schedule" hereunder and herein after referred to as **"Schedule Property"** from its respective present owner, namely, Mr. H. Arun Kumar, who has represented to us that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property having unrestricted right of alienation over the same. The owner has further represented to us that the Schedule Property is free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, liens, litigations and/or any third-party rights/claims of any nature whatsoever.

Notice is hereby given that if any person's, entity, firm, company, institution (corporate or otherwise) has or claims any right, title, interest, pending litigation, tenancy, mortgages, charge, lien or demand or any other interest of whatsoever nature upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of undersigned in writing together with all details and documents in support of such claim within 10 days from the date of this notice, failing which, it shall be deemed that the said owner has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that none else have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and we would be at liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the intended transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Any objection and/or claims received after expiry of the period mentioned shall neither be entertained nor be binding on us.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No.1
All that piece and parcel of the dry agricultural land measuring 1 acre 20 Gunas in New Survey No. 42/2 (Old Survey No. 15/P6) of Maragondanahalli Village, Jadigenhalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the:
East by : Land bearing Sy. No. 43(Old No. 15/P1);
West by : Kharab Channel;
North by : Government Road;
South by : Remaining extent of Sy. No. 42/1(Old No. 15/P6).

ITEM No.2
All that piece and parcel of the dry agricultural land measuring 5 acres in Survey No. 43 including 23 Guntas of kharab land (Old Survey No. 15/P1) of Maragondanahalli Village, Jadigenhalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist, and bounded on the:
East by : Land bearing Sy.No. 18;
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.42/2 (Old Sy. No. 15/P6);
North by : Government Road and thereafter remaining portion of Survey No. 15/P1;
South by : Land bearing Sy. No. 15 belonging to Mr. Muneer Sab and Government Channel.

ITEM No.3
All that piece and parcel of the dry agricultural land measuring 2 acre 10 Gunas in Survey No. 41 (Old Survey No. 15/P9) of Maragondanahalli Village, Jadigenhalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the:
East by : Land belonging to Mr. H. Arun Kumar.
West by : Kamarasanahalli Border;
North by : Land belonging to Mr. H. Arun Kumar;
South by : Kharab Channel (Kamarasanahalli Border).

ITEM No.4
All that piece and parcel of the dry agricultural land measuring 2 acre 20 Gunas in Survey No. 42/1 (Old Survey No. 15/P6) of Maragondanahalli Village, Jadigenhalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the:
East by : Land bearing Sy.No. 43(Old Sy. No. 15/P1);
West by : Kharab Channel;
North by : Land bearing Sy. No.42/2(Old Sy. No. 15/P6);
South by : Land bearing Sy.No. 41(Old Sy. No. 15/P9) and Government Channel

Sd/-.,
Mr. Ali Muhammad Jan and Mr. Muhammed Muaz Jan,
Phone No. 97429 72097

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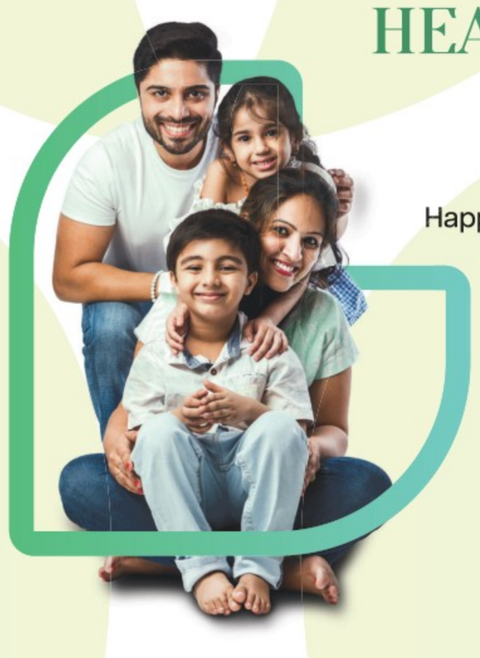

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Dr V Nagarajan
Consultant Paediatrician, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore.

Dr Murugesan A
Assistant Professor, Department of Neonatology, JIPMER, Puducherry

Soma Basu
Senior Deputy Editor (Moderator)

Sunday, May 25, 2025 | 11:30 AM

E-certificate of participation will be issued to all registrants.

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Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
#49, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru-01
Ph: 080-2558 6520 / 2558 9112 Fax: 080-2588 6321
e-mail: ho@kspcb.gov.in | Website: kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

No: PCB/137/17 CAT/HPI/EPH/2025/738 Date:21.05.2025

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

M/s TruAlt Bio-Energy Limited (Unit-3) Sy No. 72, 54/3, 54/8 & 54/9 at Kallapur SK Village, Kulgeri Hobli, Badami Taluk, Bagalkot District have proposed to produce 400 KLPD RS/ENA/Ethanol using Multi-feed stock (B/C Heavy molasses/Sugar Syrup/Grain) in the existing distillery instead of production of 400 KLPD Ethanol or 65 KLPD RS/ENA and 335 KLPD Ethanol using Multi feed stock (B/C Heavy molasses/Sugar syrup/Grain).

As Per Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated: 14.09.2006 and Amendment dated: 09.05.2022, the Project Proponent has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI and is required to go through Environmental Public Hearing process. As per the Terms of Reference No.IA-J-11011/62/2024-IA-II(I) dated: 15.03.2024 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI and request letter of the project proponent received at Board office on 27.02.2025, the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by KSPCB.

The details of the project are as follows:

1	**Name of the Company & Address:** M/s TruAlt Bio-Energy Limited (Unit-3) Kallapur SK Village, Kulgeri Hobli, Badami Taluk, Bagalkot District.
2	**Location of the Proposed Project:** Sy No. 72, 54/3, 54/8 & 54/9 at Kallapur SK Village, Kulgeri Hobli, Badami Taluk, Bagalkot District.
3	**Project proposed:** Proposed to produce 400 KLPD RS/ENA/Ethanol using Multi-feed stock (B/C Heavy molasses/Sugar Syrup/Grain) in the existing distillery instead of production of 400 KLPD Ethanol or 65 KLPD RS/ENA and 335 KLPD Ethanol using Multi feed stock (B/C Heavy molasses/Sugar syrup/Grain)
4	**Date, time and venue of Environmental Public Hearing : Date: 24.06.2025 (Tuesday) Time: 11:00 A.M Place: Project site, M/s TruAlt Bio-Energy Limited (Unit-3), Kallapur SK Village, Kulageri Hobli, Badami Taluk, Bagalkot District.**
5	**Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, which is kept open to public are:** **(a)** Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot District, Belagavi. **(b)** Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Bagalkot District, Bagalkot. **(c)** District Industries Centre, Bagalkot District, Bagalkot. **(d)** Office of the Regional Officer, Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, No.7, By-pass Road, Navanagar, Bagalkot District. **(e)** Mamatageri Village Panchayat, Badami Taluk, Bagalkot District. **(f)** Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change South Zone Office, E-3/240, KendriyaSadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru – 560 034. Helpdesk, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No.49, Parisara Bhavana, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001.

NOTE: Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notification to make oral/written/E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board / Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot District. Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place. **For details please visit our Website: kspcb.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Member Secretary

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(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕನೀನಿ, ನಂ.5, ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ. ಫೋ: 08192–264669
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: eebcddvg@yahoo.co.in

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:– **No: EE/KNNL/BCD-5/DVG/PB.1/4701ಭದ್ರಾ/ Call-5,4 & 3/ 2025-26/319, Dt:21-05-2025**

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ನಂ.5 ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ರವರು, ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ 4701 ಭದ್ರಾ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ **ಏಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ** ಮತ್ತು **ದ್ವೀ ಲಕೋಟೆ** ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದ್ದು, **ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.8.38 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ರೂ. 126.78** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ **ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು** ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರವೇ **ದಿ:21.05.2025 ರಿಂದ** ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿ: **29–05–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **26–05–2025 ರಂದು 4.00** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಪ್ರಿ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆ **ದಿ: 26–05–2025** ರಂದು ಬೆಳ್ಗೆ **11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ** ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೆರವೇರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30–05–2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.10** ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುಗಿವುದು.

ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :– 10 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು.

ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ, ಅಂಗಿಕರೀಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಥವಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/86/ ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿ/2025–26

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿ ನಂ.5 ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the AC (Welfare), BBMP Head Office, 2nd Floor, Annex-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002

No: BBMP/2024-25/IND0124/Call-2 Date: 22.05.2025

Tender Notification

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites tender from eligible bidders for the following:

1) Supply Of Electric Wheel Chair

Following are the Events of Bid Process:

1.	Tender Reference No: BBMP/2024-25/IND0124/Call-2
2.	Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Kpp Portal Website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** On **22.05.2025** onwards
3.	Date,Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting: **26.05.2025** at **12:30**pm at the following venue: office of the Special Commissioner (health and Welfare), 3rd Floor, Annexe 3 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.
4.	Last date and Time for uploading Online Queries in KPP Portal on **26.05.2025** upto **5:00** pm
5.	Last Date and Time for uploading of eTender in KPP portal on **30.05.2025** upto **5:00** pm
6.	Date and Time of online Opening of Technical Bids in KPP portal **31.05.2025** at **5:10** pm
7.	Date and Time of Demonstration of Sample Submisson: Shall be intimated after technical bid opening
8.	Address for Communication: Office of the AC (Welfare), 2nd Floor, Annex-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002, ph: 9902929741, email id: welfarebbmp@gmail.com

Note: 1).Completed tenders shall be uploaded through e-tendering system by the Tenderers using their User ID on or before the last date & time Stipulated.

2).In the event of the specified date of opening of Techical Bid (First Cover) being declared a holiday for the Purchaser, the Technical bid will be opened on the next working day.

Sd/-
Assistant Commissioner (welfare)

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, INDRANATH.K.R, & Prabhavathi,M, R/a No.61, Sri Krishna Enclave, 5th Cross, Near Krishna School, Chikkasandra, Bengaluru-560036 have changed our minor son's name from Megaraju Yadav Indranath to I Megha Raj Yadav vide affidavit dt: 22.05.2025 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar.K, B'luru

I, N Jayashree, R/a No.GO1, Right Grand Residency, 4th Block, 8th Main, BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097 have changed my name to N Suma vide affidavit dt: 21.05.2025 sworn before Notary K.V.Mani. B'luru.

I, NIRMALA Sapan Navlakha, R/a No.301-D 732, Nakoda Heritage Apartment, 59th Cross, 4th Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore-560010 have changed my name to Nirmala vide affidavit dt: 21.05.2025 sworn before Notary K.V.Mani, B'luru

I, Manoj Singumahanti S/O Sreehari R/O A 007 Sankalp Cheery Blossom Apartment, Edga Road, Opp Mayura Bekary Road, Varthur, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560087, Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son Namely Sai Hrithik Singumahanti Alias Singumahanti Sai Hrithik (Aged 10 Years) And He Shall Hereafter Be Known As Hrithik Singumahanti For All Future Purposes

I, Hitherto Known as Hardik G D Alias Hardhik Gowdra Dinesh S/O Gowdra Rajagopala Reddy Dinesh Residing at House No 702, Tower B-4, Harsha Layout, Kia Showroom, Kengeri Satellite Town, Pattanagere, R V Engineering College Campus, R V Niketan, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560059, Have Changed My Name and Shall Hereafter Be Known as Hardik Gowdra Dinesh for All Future Purposes

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE HON'BLE District Consumer Redressal Forum –1 at Visakhapatnam C.C. 59 / 2025; To: The Managing Director, Lifestyle International Pvt. Ltd., Divya Sree 77 Town Center, Building No. 3, West Wing, Marathahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560037. Please take notice that the Complainant has filed a petition against you for Unfair Trade Practice and Deficiency in Service. You are hereby requested to appear before the said Hon'ble Forum on 02–06–2025 at 10 AM, either in person or through counsel, otherwise, the matter will be decided ex–parte. Date: 23.05.2025 (SS Reddy&DS Ramaraju–Counsel for Complainant. Cell: 9866465979

TENDERS

Oushadhi
The Pharmaceutical Corporation (I.M.) Kerala Ltd.
(A Govt of Kerala Undertaking)
Kuttanellur, Thrissur-14, Kerala
Ph: 0487- 2459841, 2459807.
E-mail : purchase@oushadhi.org

P/03/2025-26 Date: 23.05.2025

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Re-E-Tenders & Re-Tenders are invited for the supply of **I) Raw Materials and II) Containers & Packing Materials** for the period from **16.06.2025 to 30.09.2025.** Last date of submission of both Tenders: **31.05.2025**. E-Tenders can be downloaded from the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** & Re-Tenders from **www.oushadhitender.com.** For more details, please visit our website **www.oushadhi.org** or contact our Purchase Division at Kuttanellur.

Thrissur (Sd/-) Managing Director

Pre-monsoon impact: A bird's-eye view of a flooded locality following heavy rain in Bengaluru on May 19, 2025. Despite the recurring nature of these floods, residents say there is lack of effective drainage solutions and inadequate infrastructure. AFP

Bengaluru under water yet again

Boats and tractors were pressed into service to rescue people as pre-monsoon showers battered the city and left many layouts and roads flooded. **K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj** and **Shreyas H.S.** examine the systemic problems that have pushed the city into such situations repeatedly.

The monsoon is yet to hit the western coast of India. However, the pre-monsoon showers this week have brought Bengaluru, the IT capital of the country, to its knees. Major arterial roads were flooded, Hosur Road in the south was closed for traffic, and in several inundated residential localities, including Sri Sai Layout at Horamavu in the north-eastern part of the city and S.T. Bed Layout in the south-east, boats were deployed to rescue people.

The scenes were reminiscent of the floods in the city in 2015, 2017, 2020, and 2022, all of which were during the peak monsoon season or in the post-monsoon period. But this time, the pre-monsoon showers have led to floods and mayhem. Four people have lost their lives in tree-fall, compound wall collapse, and electrocution incidents.

A tree that crashed following heavy rain being cleared by civic workers at Banashankari 2nd Stage in Bengaluru. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

It is mostly in April that the civic body, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), wakes up to the monsoon, which usually hits the city in the first or second week of June. On May 5 this year, Additional Chief Secretary Tushar Giri Nath, who also holds the charge as Administrator of the BBMP, and the new Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao, held a meeting to review "monsoon preparedness". Civic officials were directed to pull their socks up and carry out works ahead of the onset of the monsoon. As per a statement issued after this meeting, of the 209 flood-prone spots, interventions were carried out at 166 and zonal officials were asked to visit and attend to 43 other flood-prone spots, dredge drains along 82 road stretches that were flagged as prone to flooding by the traffic police, and finish the annual maintenance work along 175-km-long storm-water drains (SWDs).

The fact that annual maintenance work of the crucial SWDs is still under way, just days ahead of the onset of monsoon, indicates that it is "business as usual".

Need for a paradigm shift

As the city prepares for the monsoon, the pre-monsoon showers – often accompanied by squalls and thunderstorms – wreak more damage. In May 2023, a woman died when the car she was travelling in got submerged in the K.R. Circle underpass, a stone's throw away from the Vidhana Soudha in the city centre.

Experts have called for "a paradigm shift" and said the authorities should focus on preparing for pre-monsoon showers so that by April every year, the city is "rain-ready".

Data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru, for 1990-2020 shows that rain begins to pick up in the city from April. During this period, while the mean total rainfall for March is 14.7 mm, it increases to 61.7 mm in April. Traditionally, the first rain is expected around Holi festival and later around Ugadi (March-April). These are called the mango showers as well. The first big rain of the year often ends up wreaking big damage as the civic administration has barely taken any measures to dredge drains along the roads and identify dangerous trees for removing or pruning them. The first rain is like a shock to the system.

> Anyone who observes the rain pattern in Bengaluru will realise that we need to be rain-ready before April. But there is a disconnect with this ground reality and the work taken up by the city authorities.
>
> **S. VISHWANATH,** water conservation activist

IMD data shows that Bengaluru receives more rainfall in May (total mean 128.7 mm) than in the monsoon months of June (110.3 mm) and July (116.4 mm). The rainfall further peaks in August, September, and October, the wettest period of the year in Bengaluru. There are two peaks – May and later September.

C.S. Patil, Director of IMD, Bengaluru, says they consider March 1 to May 31 as the pre-monsoon period, June 1 to September 30 as the monsoon period, and October 1 to December 31 as the post-monsoon period. "Heavy rain begins by May and continues till October in Bengaluru," he says. The pre-monsoon showers in the April-May period are thunderstorms, accompanied by high-speed winds that can go up to 50 kmph and lightning, he says. "Many trees fall during the pre-monsoon showers, mainly due to high-speed winds. During monsoon also we may see some tree-falls and thunderstorm events," he says.

B.L.G. Swamy, Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP, says, "Not just old and brittle trees, even many healthy green trees have also fallen during the recent rain." The civic body cut down several trees and pruned many as a preventive measure in the last two months, he says. Despite a special drive from April to prune trees, the city has reported over 60 tree-fall incidents and one death in one such incident during the pre-monsoon showers in May.

In the last two years, the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company too has reported damage to over 9,000 electricity poles and around 1,000 transformers during the pre-monsoon months. An official from the power utility says, "We lose more infrastructure in the pre-monsoon months because of the tree-fall incidents. Our poles can withstand up to 250 kg of weight, but when bigger trees fall, a breakdown is inevitable. Before the monsoon, we also take up pruning of trees and aerial bunching of cables."

S. Vishwanath, water conservation activist, says, "Anyone who observes the rain pattern in Bengaluru will realise that we need to be rain-ready before April. But there is a disconnect with this ground reality and the work taken up by the city administration, which wakes up to the monsoon by April, if we are lucky. We need to change the way we look at this and work backwards to the April deadline. What we do in April-May, has to be done in February-March."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who visited rain-affected areas in the city on Wednesday, pulled up officers for not being prepared for the showers.

Citizen activists point out patterns that show that many stretches of roads and certain pockets of the city, despite being flagged by multiple agencies and prior experience, get flooded every time it rains. "Why does the same set of places get flooded every year? This only shows laxity of the civic administration. Either the civic body is not working towards practical workable interventions at these points, or unplanned development of the city seems to have made it impossible to avoid flooding," says V. Ramprasad from Friends of Lakes, a citizen collective working to conserve the city's lakes.

Why is it in the same place every year?

For the past many years, Sri Sai Layout and S.T. Bed Layout, both developed by the Bangalore Development Authority, get flooded with even light rains, exposing not only the BBMP's laxity, but also the government's own skewed development model.

The May 18 downpour resulted in houses at Sri Sai Layout getting submerged in 4-5 ft of water. Residents, including children and the elderly, were rescued by boats and tractor trolleys deployed by the State Disaster Response Force. Neelufur Ahmed, a 45-year-old resident, expressed the community's growing anxiety: "Rain, typically seen as beneficial, has become a source of fear." The flooding disrupts daily life and causes significant property damage, making each rainstorm increasingly perilous for those living in the neighbourhood.

Despite the recurring nature of these floods, residents report a lack of effective drainage solutions and inadequate infrastructure. The BBMP Chief Commissioner, who visited the flooded locality in a tractor, promised a "permanent solution", something the residents have been hearing from the authorities for years. Since 2020, the BBMP has been promising to drill two big vents at a railway bridge in the locality to drain out water. Rao also promised to speed up the process. During the recent city rounds of the Chief Minister, residents vented their ire at local MLA and former Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj for alleged "apathy".

The story is no different at S.T. Bed Layout, which has been developed on a tank bed, and Trinity Fortune Layout at Geddalahalli in north Bengaluru, the two other flood-prone areas. Sandra Noel, a resident of Trinity Fortune, says, "We were scared until the BBMP authorities arrived, as the water level kept rising after the nearby drains were flooded. This was one of the worst floods the layout has seen and if the drain problem is not fixed, it will continue for years".

The story is no different with flood-prone road stretches. Motorists, citing this week's rain, say the flood-prone roads identified by the civic body have not seen any transformation. "The roads under the Hebbal flyover and Veerannapalya stretch on the adjoining Outer Ring Road have been flooding with every rain for years. Water gets stagnated even on the flyover. Multiple delegations of heads of all civic agencies have visited the flyover and these areas and carried out some interventions. But why does the area still flood during the rains?," Sandeep Kumar, who takes the road to work every day, sought to know.

In the May 5 monsoon preparedness review meeting, Giri Nath and Rao said the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) had flagged 82 road stretches that often get flooded during the rains. Sources say the BTP has flagged a total of 137 stretches that get inundated, of which they have also reportedly pointed out 14 stretches that are worse off and result in traffic disruptions. Problems with most of these 14 stretches have been persistent for over two years. For instance, the Veerannapalya stretch of the Outer Ring Road, the service road under the Hebbal flyover, Panathur underpass, Silk Board junction, Hosur Road, Electronics City flyover, Marathahalli, Agara 14th Main Road, and HSR Layout have been flooding with every rain for years. The same stretches were the worst affected during the recent rain.

"The primary problem at most of these stretches is clogged drains, which need regular maintenance. Most of these drains are clogged with garbage, plastic bottles, dry leaves, and such materials. But in some of these places, there is also a need for engineering interventions," says a senior traffic police official.

B.S. Prahlad, Engineer-in-Chief of the BBMP, says that the civic body had carried out interventions at most of these places. "There will always be a run-off on the road surface during the rain. We cannot avoid that altogether. What we are working on is to reduce the time it takes for the water to drain out," he says.

What has worsened the situation this year is the many ongoing roadworks across the city, including white-topping of roads being taken up even in the central business district ahead of the rains. Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. has also dug up several key roads to push electricity cables underground, but the work is yet to be completed.

Drains, lakes prepared to mitigate floods?

Meanwhile, activists point out that neither the city's drains nor lakes are prepared for flood mitigation. "By now, we should have ensured our lakes are only half full so that they can take in rainwater. But there seems to be no coordination between the BBMP, the agency with custody of these lakes, and the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, which is filling the lakes with treated water. If the lakes are filled with treated water and are not desilted, their carrying capacity will be severely compromised. Our lakes are wonderful flood-mitigation barriers if used properly, but they are not," says Ramprasad.

"The carrying capacity of our drains has been reduced by at least 50%, due to the build-up of silt and flow of sewage, which is never accounted for. Naturally, they will overflow," he says.

Kathyayini Chamaraj of CIVIC, a citizen collective, says the civic body is concretising all drains and not building enough percolation pits. "There is no way the water will seep in. It stands there, taking away the drain's carrying capacity and also becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes," she says. Not just the SWDs, but even the shoulder drains and culverts are not being desilted regularly, leading to flooding. We need to redesign our drain system to manage our kind of monsoon, she says.

Prahlad, who also holds charge as Chief Engineer, SWD, BBMP, says they are removing silt and carrying out maintenance work of SWDs, and the drains will be ready by the onset of monsoon.

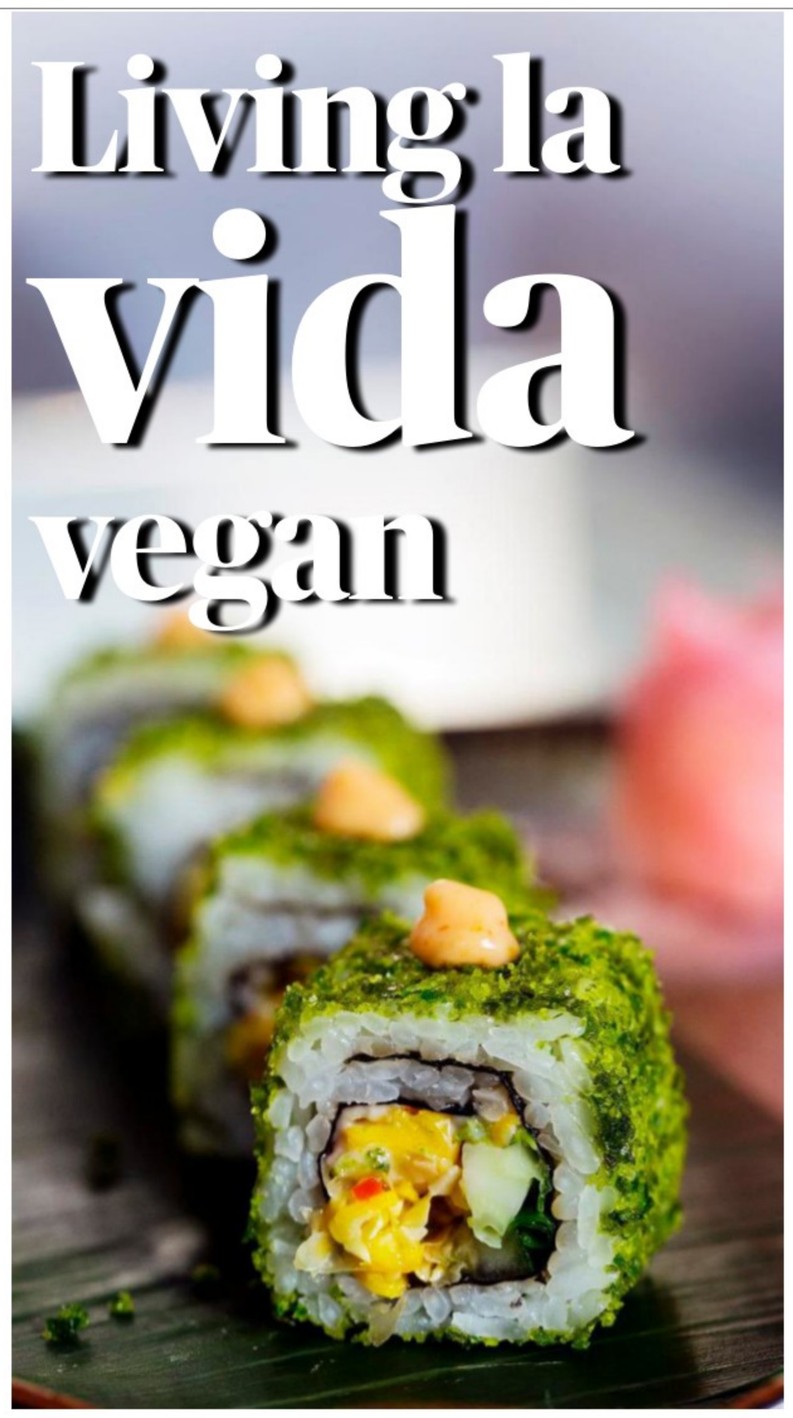
(With inputs from Jahnavi T.R.)

Slushy: Rain has made it difficult for people to cross this road at Chamarajpet in Bengaluru, where civic works have been taken up. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

To the rescue: A boat being used to shift people at Sri Sai Layout in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Living la vida vegan

Chefs, restauranteurs and diners tell us the reasons behind why vegan is not a fringe diet any more



Green quest Vegan options abound across all cuisines in the city today. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

S Susmitha

We were in the teetering, tottering, terrible twos stage of running our vegan restaurant, Carrots, in 2015, when an experienced person in the F&B industry said, "Vegan food will fail. Switch to vegetarian!" I might have crumbled under his smugness.

But over a decade of being vegan in India had made it clear to me which direction vegan cuisine was heading. We were just ahead of the curve. Soon more vegan restaurants and home bakeries cropped up across the city.

Snowball effect

"The years 2020 and 2021 saw vegan options skyrocket in Bengaluru," says Shruti Mishra, an entrepreneur and marketing consultant who jets between Bengaluru and the Silicon Valley. Due to the pandemic, many food businesses succumbed to difficult market conditions. Underneath, however, there was a tectonic shift.

Concerns about health made people re-look their eating habits. When you look into where your food comes from, it is hard to ignore practices in animal agriculture, and its impact on global warming. In a Venn diagram of ethical food production, better health and environment, veganism sits squarely in the middle.

Two significant things happened with the increase in awareness. First, people became plant-forward in their diet, and those who were ethically inclined turned vegan. We saw an influx of people in our 'Bengaluru Vegans' Telegram group which had about 80 members before the pandemic and is at 191 now. The Facebook group has 5,600 members.

Second, being stuck indoors, more vegans dabbled in entrepreneurship.

Several plant-based home kitchens sprouted up across the city serving a range of foods from cupcakes to hummus dips. People who had been regular guests at our restaurant reached out to me for mentoring on starting their own vegan food businesses.

My sadness at shutting down my own business was quickly overpowered by the joy of helping new small businesses start and grow in the quickly changing F&B ecosystem. "'Vegan' became a buzz word," says Shruti.

Not wanting to be left behind, more restaurants started making an effort.

Nikhil Gupta introduced vegan dishes at The Pizza Bakery and Paris Panini three years ago thanks to an increase in demand. These include pizzas, multi-grain wraps and sandwiches.

"It's a small part of our business, but it's a growing one," he says. While many food businesses have become more inclusive of vegans in recent times, others who began years ago find it much easier now.

Pallavii Gupta, partner at Santé Spa Cuisine, which has two outlets in Bengaluru, worked hard to train her team about vegan food in 2018.

By 2023, when she founded The Kind Roastery, she says awareness about vegan cuisine had grown so drastically in the industry, it was easy to include loads of vegan options on their menu such as Corn Ribs, Lemon Poppyseed Cake, and Vegan Sourdough Beirut.

Vinay Chaitanya of The Digitale Chef started out his patisserie and café as mostly vegan with vegetarian options, but turned his entire menu vegan because alternatives like mylks (plant-based milks) and butters became easily available.

His chocolate truffle cake and artisanal breads are loved by vegans and non-vegans alike.

Question of choice

Curiosity is growing among those who enjoy exploring new cuisines or have allergies, and people who dine with vegans. Namu Kini, who curates the 'Namu Recommends Vegan Markets' in the city, talks about 'the vegan veto'. When a vegan dines out with friends or family, if a restaurant does not cater to their needs, their entire group goes elsewhere. "If a restaurant does not offer vegan options, it is not one person they miss out on. Once our entire family of 12 wanted to celebrate at a five-star restaurant. The chef refused to veganise anything, so we did not dine there. They lost business."

Shailaja Vishwanath, a Bengaluru-based holistic wellness coach, and Karthic Ashokan, an entrepreneur who enjoys scouting for vegan food, take their non-vegan friends and family to fully vegan restaurants, like Café Graze. They say their loved ones are amazed by how good their special festival thalis and Sunday brunches taste.

Upasana Bijoor and Mahalakshmi Raghunath, who run Cafe Graze, say two-thirds of their guests are vegan and bring non-vegans, who return because they enjoy the food, especially their range of dessert themed healthy smoothie bowls. . Upasana adds, "Our cashew mylk masala chai is a bestseller!"

As demand for high quality plant-based cuisine grows, Bengaluru refuses to be left behind. More vegan options appear in the city each day. Vegan food is a cuisine in its own right. A quick warning, some restaurants may misunderstand or misuse the "vegan" label. Be sure to check the ingredients before you order, especially if you have any allergies.

Susmitha S is a vegan chef and lifestyle expert

Cycling for sustainability

Pedaluru to host World Bicycle Day ride in the city on June 1

Buzzing along A Pedaluru event. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Praveen Sudevan
praveen.s@thehindu.co.in

Bengaluru's cycling community is preparing to rally together for Pedaluru's flagship event on June 1, with an early morning ride from the Karnataka State Hockey Association (KSHA) stadium in Shantinagar.

Organised by Sathya Sankaran, Bicycle Mayor of Bengaluru, and co-founder Susheel Nair, Pedaluru is a citizen-driven movement to bring cycling back into the mainstream of urban transport. The initiative champions active, human-centred mobility as a solution to urban challenges ranging from congestion to declining health.

"Pedaluru is an umbrella campaign aimed at bringing attention back to cycling, which is increasingly being deprioritised amidst the growing focus on electric vehicles and alternative fuels," says Sathya. "It's about efficiency and engaging with the city in a meaningful, human way."

The event kicks off with check-in and welcome kit distribution at 6am, including T-shirts and goodies for registered participants.

The ride begins at 6.30am, taking cyclists on an eight to 10-kilometre loop through the city, before returning to the stadium by 7.15am. A breakfast session will follow, with the event wrapping up by 8am.

The event is aligned with World Bicycle Day, typically marked on June3. This year's event is scheduled slightly earlier to maximise participation on a Sunday. Pedaluru expects around 2,000 cyclists to participate.

"This isn't an endurance race; it's a symbolic ride," says Sathya. "*It's a show of strength and solidarity. When* hundreds gather to ride together, it sends a message: cyclists exist, and they need infrastructure that supports them."

Co-founder Susheel says that the movement's mission is long-term. "Pedaluru is about building momentum. We're working with colleges, corporates, and communities to encourage everyday cycling. The more visible we become, the more pressure we can create for safe cycling networks."

The campaign also encourages employers to track sustainable commuting through platforms like Altmo, which gamifies cycling participation and supports corporate sustainability goals. "This is about public health, environmental awareness, and reclaiming city spaces for people," says Sathya. "It's our marquee event, but also part of a broader year-round movement."

To register and more information call 9148733297

Timeless appeal

IN THE 45 YEARS SINCE ITS INAUGURATION, Bengaluru's beloved Chowdiah Memorial Hall has hosted numerous musicians. A look into its history and making

Rashmi Gopal Rao

Bengaluru is a city that has evolved with time, and yet, an aspect that remains constant is its vibrant cultural scene. One landmark that stands tall as a beacon of art, culture and music is Chowdiah Memorial Hall (CMH) in Malleshwaram. This violin-shaped edifice was constructed 50 years ago as a tribute to violinist of renown Tirumakudalu Chowdiah and is still considered to be one of the finest examples of mimetic architecture in the world.

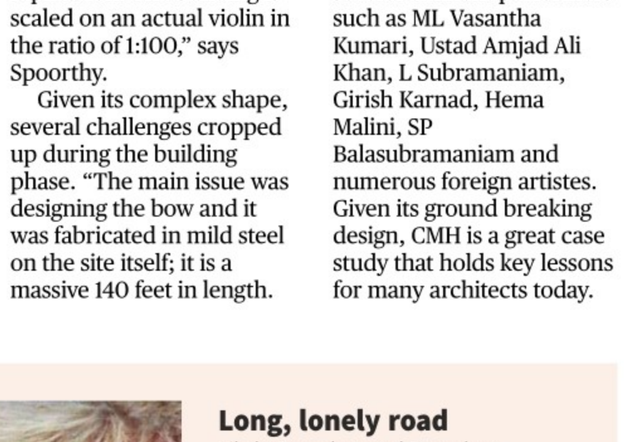
Pioneering design

It was music aficionado KK Murthy, former chairman of the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) and the first President of the city's Academy of Music, who came up with the idea of building a memorial to Pitil Chowdiah (Pitil is Kannada for violin) as Tirumakudalu Chowdiah was affectionately called.

Chowdiah played a seven-stringed violin instead of the traditional four-stringed one. Murthy approached a famous Bengaluru architect, Siddalaghatta Narasimha Moorthy (or SN Moorthy as he was popularly called) to design and build the structure.

"It was my father who proposed building the structure in the shape of a seven-stringed violin as an ultimate ode to the maestro," says NM Spoorthy, architect and son of SN Moorthy.

Musical harmony The profile view of the Chowdiah Memorial Hall in Bengaluru depicts the detailing on the violin's bow. MURALI KUMAR K AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



Spoorthy adds that the sheer size and scale of the structure remains the highlight of the auditorium considering it was envisaged over 50 years ago.

"It was the only auditorium in the country with a 1,100 seating capacity specifically designed to host cultural events in the 1980s. My father was a stickler for perfection and detail, and daily carried a violin to the site to ensure perfect replication. The building is scaled on an actual violin in the ratio of 1:100," says Spoorthy.

Given its complex shape, several challenges cropped up during the building phase. "The main issue was designing the bow and it was fabricated in mild steel on the site itself; it is a massive 140 feet in length. Introducing seven strings on to the structure was another task and my father would not hesitate to bring it down and rebuild it if he was not satisfied with the finish," adds Spoorthy.

The seven strings were crafted out of heavy gauge and were procured from the main KEB office to ensure it did not rust or warp due to the vagaries of the weather.

CMH was inaugurated in 1980 by the then Governor of Karnataka, Govind Narain.

Since then, it has staged several eminent performers such as ML Vasantha Kumari, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, L Subramaniam, Girish Karnad, Hema Malini, SP Balasubramaniam and numerous foreign artistes. Given its ground breaking design, CMH is a great case study that holds key lessons for many architects today.

STEPOUT

Creative corner

PlayQuakes is organising a workshop, 'Little Architects of Bengaluru', for children aged between nine and 14. It aims to empower them to create with technology rather than just consume it. Participants will learn the basics of electricity, explore the architecture and history of India, and reimagine Bengaluru using creative tech tools.
Fee: ₹ 2,499. On May 24, 11am at Atta Galatta, Indiranagar. Call 9632510126.

Long, lonely road

Vikalp Bengaluru and Bangalore International Centre (BIC) will screen *Tibet in Song*. The 86-minute English and Tibetan film, is produced and directed by Ngawang Choephel who will later be in a conversation with Sandhya Kumar. The film follows Ngawang's journey, a Tibetan exile who risks everything to preserve his homeland's endangered folk music.
On May 28, 6.30pm at BIC. Call 9886599675.

Discussion on caste census again remains inconclusive

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A discussion by the Karnataka Cabinet on the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey or caste census yet again remained inconclusive and it would come up for talks in the next Cabinet.

Briefing about the Cabinet meeting decisions on Thursday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said three or four Ministers have not given their opinions on the survey in writing and therefore the discussion remained inconclusive.

Reports of the survey were given to Ministers at the April 17 Cabinet meeting. The meeting on May 9 again postponed discussion on the caste census report.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has asked the Ministers to give their opinions in writing. While a majority of Ministers gave their opinion in writing, three or four Ministers have not given their suggestions in writing, Mr. Patil added.

State Cabinet approves renaming Ramanagara dist. as Bengaluru South

A couple of months ago, the Centre had rejected the State government's renaming proposal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday approved the renaming of neighbouring Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South district.

A couple of months ago, the Centre had rejected the State government's proposal to rename Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South.

Briefing presspersons after a Cabinet meeting, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said: "We have checked the rules, regulations and acts, and amendments. Ramanagara was originally a part of Bengaluru district. Today in the Cabinet it was decided to rename it as Bengaluru South district. The notification regarding this will be issued".

There would be no change in Ramanagara functioning as the headquarters of the district, he said.

A view of the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway near Ramanagara.

Asked about the necessity of the Centre's nod for renaming the district, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said the Union government's approval was not necessary and the matter came under the State subject.

To a question whether the Centre had opposed the Cabinet's earlier decision in this regard, Mr. Shivakumar said: "The Central government has no powers on this issue. Informing the Centre is mandatory, that's all. There was some politics and some attempts were made to oppose, but it is our right, as it is a State subject".

Mr. Shivakumar said: "Notification will be issued and the necessary process will follow. There will be no financial implication from this decision... all land records and everything will be changed."

He said the Centre's approval was not sought when other districts were renamed earlier, including when the name Ramanagara was given. Union Minister for Industries and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy was the Chief Minister during the JD(S)-BJP coalition when Ramanagara district was carved out in August 2007.

Mr. Kumaraswamy had earlier threatened to go on a protest if the State government decided to go-ahead with the proposal to rename the district.

Sanction to prosecute former KPSC chairman not to be sought

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday decided against seeking sanction to prosecute the former chairman of the Karnataka Public Service Commission and nine members for alleged irregularities in the recruitment of gazetted officers in 2011.

Briefing presspersons on the Cabinet decisions, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said the Cabinet had decided to close the matter on seeking prosecution of then chairman Gonal Bheemappa and nine other members.

In 2021, the Cabinet decided to regularise services of 48 officers recruited.

Malpractices

Charges against the former chairman and members were related to allegations of large-scale malpractices in recruitments in 2011, which caused widespread protests at that time.

The CID, which probed irregularities, is said to have provided evidence of procedural violations and possible manipulation in the selection process.

As KPSC members hold constitutional positions, any legal proceedings against them would require prior sanction from constitutional authorities, such as the Governor, and, in some cases, the President.

Mr. Patil said the Cabinet had decided against seeking prosecution since the former chairman and members had retired from service.

Upgrading hospital

The Cabinet has decided to upgrade Sindhanur taluk hospital as the district hospital by increasing the number of beds from 100 to 200 at a cost of ₹28.75 crore.

It was decided to upgrade the Malur town Municipal Council as City Municipal Council.

Similarly, a decision was taken to upgrade the Maddur town Municipal Council as City Municipal Council, Mr. Patil said.

Suspension of 18 BJP MLAs: CM, Speaker to meet on May 25

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Siddaramaiah

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will hold a meeting with Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader on May 25 to take a decision on the request for revoking the suspension of 18 BJP MLAs for six months for their "indiscipline and disrespectful behaviour" over the allegations of honey-trapping during the State Budget session in March.

Following a petition by the BJP, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has written to Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Khader asking them to "positively consider" the request to revoke the suspension.

Law and Parliamentary Minister H.K. Patil said the Chief Minister and the Speaker will discuss the matter on May 25.

High Court stays FIRs against Amit Malviya and Arnab Goswami

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday stayed the first information reports (FIRs) registered against BJP's IT cell head, Amit Malviya, and Republic TV's Editor-in-Chief Arnab Goswami based on complaints lodged by the Indian Youth Congress (IYC) for allegedly defaming the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi through "false" information.

A Vacation Bench of Justice S. Rachaiah passed the interim orders on separate petitions filed by Mr. Malviya and Mr. Goswami.

The petitioners questioned the legality of the FIRs, registered by the High Grounds police here, based on complaints lodged by Shrikanth Swaroop B.N., head of IYC's legal cell, Bengaluru.

It was alleged in the complaint that Republic TV channel, while alleging that the Congress had an office in Turkiye, which supported Pakistan against India, had showed an image of Istanbul Congress Centre claiming it to be the office of the Indian National Congress. The channel, however, later clarified that an incorrect image was shown.

In the complaint against Mr. Malviya, it was alleged he posted Republic TV's report on Turkiye Congress office on social media, besides defaming Mr. Gandhi by posting an image of a face, half of which is of Mr. Gandhi and the other half of Pakistan Army chief Asif Munir with certain adverse remarks against Mr. Gandhi.

Chittapur incident: BJP seeks removal of Priyank

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday sought the intervention of Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on the illegal confinement of Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, at Chittapur in Kalaburagi district on Wednesday and demanded that RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge be removed from the Cabinet, while accusing him of being responsible for the incident.

In a petition to the Governor, a delegation of BJP leaders, comprising Leaders of the Opposition in both Houses of the State legislature, R. Ashok and Mr. Narayanaswamy, among others, alleged that Mr. Narayanaswamy had been attacked in Chittapur and that Mr. Kharge had misused his position as Minister to pursue personal vendetta against Mr. Narayanaswamy.

A BJP delegation submitting a memorandum to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

They further alleged that Mr. Kharge's supporters and Congress members were responsible for the incident of illegal detention and assault on Mr. Narayanaswamy. The delegation appealed to the Governor to direct the government to take immediate action against the police officers concerned for their alleged failure to prevent the mobbing and illegal detention of Mr. Narayanaswamy, who belongs to a Scheduled Caste community.

Describing the incident as a sign of breakdown of law and order, the delegation also appealed to the Governor to seek a report on the incident from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Home Minister, the Chief Secretary, and DG&IG. They should be told to file a report within 24 hours, the BJP leaders demanded.

Commission favours better management of govt.-run temples in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission, headed by veteran Congress leader and MLA R.V. Deshpande, has proposed over 189 reforms in various departments, especially the establishment of a comprehensive framework for better management of the State's 34,500 temples.

R.V. Deshpande

The commission has proposed the creation of a temple task force to handle crowd control, emergency responses, ticketing, and distribution of *prasad* during festivals and large special events at temples.

Mr. Deshpande submitted the commission's eighth report to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday and new recommendations, aimed at revitalising key sectors such as temple management, food and civil supplies, government recruitment, healthcare to bring in better governance, transparency, and accountability in the delivery of public services.

The panel is in favour of delegating the power to sanction new staff posts to the Endowment Commissioner, bypassing the current dependency on Finance Department approval in order to increase efficiency in temple operations and transparency.

The temple staff salaries are funded by temple income and not the State Budget. So, the recommendation is expected to speed up appointments without additional financial burden on the government.

To ensure transparency and check corruption in recruitment, and enhance the integrity of exams conducted by the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) and the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA), the commission stated the installation of CCTV surveillance, mobile jammers, secure storage of question papers and answer sheets were mandatory, and a two-tier exam system to reduce candidate volumes and enhance monitoring.

For providing digital governance, the commission recommended modernisation of frontline offices such as gram panchayats, primary health centres, raitha seva kendras, and police stations. The report noted that many of these offices currently lack basic infrastructure such as adequate hardware, Internet connectivity, and furniture.

It has proposed streamlining the process of issuing ration cards through the integration of State-run platforms such as Bhoomi, Aadhar, Kutumba and Seva Sindhu.

After submitting the report, Mr. Deshpande told reporters that the commission had previously made 5,039 recommendations in its earlier seven reports and 30% of them were implemented.

'No clicking photos of wildlife in forest areas'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has warned that action will be taken against those who take photos and selfies of wildlife while travelling on roads within the State's forest areas.

Mr. Khandre's warning comes in the wake of a video doing the rounds which shows tourists taking selfies with an elephant at the Charmadi Ghat in Belthangady taluk, Dakshina Kannada district, on Thursday.

He said that it is a crime to get down from vehicles while travelling on forest roads and has instructed officials to find out the registration number of the vehicle involved and take legal action.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Smt. Challa Sreelakshmi W/o late Challa Bhageeratha Reddy, D/o Raghavendra Reddy Kalakota, Aged about 45 years, R/at, No.2-45, Raja Street, Owk, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh - 518122, has acquired the schedule properties through inheritance and she has intended to sell the schedule properties to my client. My client is also interested to purchase the schedule properties from Smt. Challa Sreelakshmi. The schedule properties are free from encumbrances. If any person having any right, title, interest, possession, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the schedule properties, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with documentary proof thereof to the under signed advocate within 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

1. Agriculture property bearing Sy.No. 204, measuring 0-39 guntas and 0-02 guntas karab and bounded as follows:-
   East by : Own property
   West by : Land belongs to Yetappa
   North by : Land belongs to Sakala Govindappa
   South by : Andhra boundary
2. Agriculture property bearing Sy.No. 212/1, measuring 1-22 guntas and 0-18 guntas karab and bounded as follows:-
   East by : Land of Sy. No. 54
   West by : Land of Sy. No. 54
   North by : Land of Sy. No. 179
   South by : Land of Sy. No. 216

belongs to Sanjeevamma Both properties are situated at, Jilajirla Village, Gulur Hobli, Bagepalli Taluk, Chickballapur District

N. RAMESH B.A., LL.B., ADVOCATE
Resi: #241, Mustoor Road,
Near Vinayaka Choultry,
4th Ward, Prashanatha Nagara,
Chickballapur City - 562 101
Ph.: 9902421979 Date: 22-5-2025

State's total credit plan outlay for FY 2025-26 set at ₹11,88,986 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The total credit plan outlay of Karnataka for the current fiscal, 2025-26, has been set at ₹11,88,986 crore, at the 169th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting held at the Vidhana Soudha here on Thursday.

Of this plan outlay, the priority sector's (comprising agriculture, micro, small and medium enterprises, export credit, education, housing, social infrastructure, and renewable energy) credit requirement would be ₹4,38,016 crore, 36.84% of the total credit, for the current fiscal. Of this, agriculture would have a credit share of ₹2,22,204 crore, claiming 50.73% of the priority sector credit, crop production loans ₹1,40,108 crore, MSME credit ₹1,90,891 crore, education loans ₹2,222 crore, housing loans at ₹11,678 crore, while other sectors' credit for the year would be ₹11,022 crore.

The meeting was chaired by Uma Mahadevan, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, who also launched the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) for FY2026.

Ms. Mahadevan said there was a need for universal coverage under social security schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). She also urged all banks to onboard IIBF-certified (Indian Institute of Banking & Finance) NRLM (National Rural Livelihoods Mission) SHG women as banking correspondent sakhis, thereby enhancing last-mile delivery of banking services.

She commended the efforts of SLBC, RBI, NABARD, and all participating financial institutions for their collaborative efforts in the formulation of the ACP.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

12th ANNIVERSARY

R.ARUNJUNAIMARAN MA.BL.,
Advocate, Virudhunagar
Expired on 23.05.2013
Fondly Remembered by:
Dr.R.Arunmozhimaran
M.S.Ortho
& Family

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-14/343/2025-26 Date: 21.05.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the Work : **(1)** Jungle clearance and provide road furniture at Badanaguppe-Kellambali Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar Taluk & District (Road No.3,5,6,7,9, 9B & 10). Category-SC. (3rd Call). **(2)** Jungle clearance and provide road furniture at Badanaguppe-Kellambali Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar Taluk & District (Road No.8,1, 2 & 14). Category-SC. (3rd Call).

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **02.06.2025** upto **4.30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/807/Zen/2025-26

Why retirement communities are gaining popularity among urban Indians

With these having been around for two decades, *The Hindu* tries to understand who would benefit most from moving into one, and why

EXPLAINER

Dhiraj Shetty
BENGALURU

Is a retirement community just a fancy name for an old-age home? With the population of citizens over the age of 60 in India crossing 10% of the total population (approximately 150 crore), and the number expected to grow in the coming decades, conversations about retirement communities are common.

The Hindu set out to find answers to these questions by visiting retirement communities and interacting with the residents.

A retirement community is a residential complex for senior citizens where the services include food (at home or in a dining hall), housekeeping services (home and common areas), and medical care, if and when necessary.

It is nowhere close to the old-age homes that are associated with being the final refuge of destitute people and parents abandoned by their children. On the contrary, it is a place where senior citizens shift to in a bid to lead a life of quality, independent of their children if they have any, while acknowledging the need for some sort of help in view of their advancing age.

A retirement community is a residential complex for senior citizens where the services include food (at home or in a dining hall), housekeeping services (home and common areas), and medical care, if and when necessary. FILE PHOTO

How did the concept take off?

Many of the residents told *The Hindu* that they had heard of retirement communities from either former colleagues or relatives. They had visited friends and relatives in retirement communities, at times stayed with them for a few days, before taking the plunge themselves.

Sharada, who has a home in south Bengaluru in a multi-storey apartment complex, says, "As we are getting old, managing the household becomes a problem. We bought a house in a retirement community to see if it is better than our existing living arrangement."

Their decision was aided by the experience of her brother-in-law who has been living in a retirement community in Coimbatore for 13 years. "He had been telling us to buy a house in a retirement community."

Concerns about the future were a big factor in Ashish and Dipasri taking the decision to invest in a retirement community. Ashish says, "In 1997, my father fell ill. He was in coma for 55 days. That made me think of our future. What would one of us do if the other were to fall ill? That's when we looked for options, and decided on a retirement community."

Dipasri says, "Initially, our children were skeptical and opposed to the idea. But, once we shifted here, and they visited us a few times, slowly they changed their mind about our decision. We do not expect our children to be looking after us the way we looked after our parents. Their career and responsibilities towards their children will not allow them to. Also, we would not want them to because, having done that ourselves, we know how difficult it is."

Residents of a retirement community celebrating a festival. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Push during COVID-19 pandemic

The medical care aspect of retirement communities was highlighted when the Corona virus struck and restricted people to their homes.

Padma, another resident of a retirement home, says, "During covid, we were locked down here. At that time, we were looked after very nicely by the team here. That convinced us to shift here permanently. Actually, we had hospitals in the neighbourhood of our previous home in south Bengaluru. But, you are dependent on your neighbours to get you there. But here, you are not dependent on anybody. There is a dedicated team here to take care of your medical needs."

Role of medical facilities

Many in the current generation of senior citizens had moved out of the homes of their parents to pursue a career in a different city, or even country. They have been used to living independently. And, they are not willing to give up their independence.

However, aging comes with its own set of problems. It comes with a decline in physical and mental abilities, and is often accompanied by health problems.

Cooking and upkeep of the house are a challenge, and aging diminishes the energy to deal with this challenge on a daily basis. Medical problems are inevitable, and it appears that retirement communities offer a smoother way to deal with them.

Shekar says, "Our retirement community has a dedicated team that monitors the health of residents who need such a service. Others can avail the service if and when they need. An ambulance is stationed in our premises."

Boon for women

But, a retirement community is not for people who are very picky. Take the case of food, which is an important component. Food is prepared in a common kitchen. Residents have the option of having meals in the dining hall, delivered to home or cook at home.

But, food cooked in a common kitchen many not be palatable to everyone. Some people insist on food cooked to their liking.

While demands like these may appear reasonable, it can be a boon when seen from the perspective of women who for most part take on the burden of cooking. So, when does a woman get to retire?

Sharda says, "My friends envy me. They say I am lucky to have got rid of the task of cooking. Now, I can devote time to other tasks and hobbies that I am interested in."

Thus, shifting to a retirement community requires a major change in mindset, and the willingness to compromise and be open to a new way of life.

Why the reluctance?

However, there is also a reluctance on the part of some people to moving to a retirement community due to the broadly homogenous profile of the residents, and the absence of children.

While children do not stay in retirement communities, they are never far away.

Jayaraman, who lives in a retirement community near Bengaluru, says, "This place is packed with children during summer and winter holidays."

Besides, children and grandchildren of residents often organise various activities in the retirement community. During such events, they make it a point to involve all residents. For example, children who have learnt Bharatnatyam or Kathakali may perform for the residents. Or, children may celebrate their birthday in the retirement community.

In case of retirement communities located near mixed communities, families come together to celebrate festivals and other events.

Padma says, "Last Christmas, all the children in the neighbourhood celebrated the festival with us. And, it was not a one-off event. Sometimes, we go over to their building, or they come over here for various events and festivals."

The focus on seniors

Though mixed communities do not fall short in terms of activities, there is an important difference vis-a-vis retirement communities. In mixed communities, multiple groups of people - youngsters, women, seniors and others - are vying to be at the centre of various activities. What eventually happens is that seniors end up at the end of the queue.

In contrast, all activities in retirement communities are focused on seniors. Besides, there are other subtle differences.

Padma says, "All activities, including celebration of festivals, end at 7.30 pm. As we age, our tolerance to noise goes down. We need some quiet, which we get in a retirement community, but cannot expect in a mixed community."

Who is best suited?

But, that does not mean that everyone who has crossed the age of 60 will fit into a retirement community. Perspectives differ.

Shanti, who stays in a retirement community in Coimbatore, says, "A retirement community is very convenient for people living in independent homes where security is a concern." Shekar, who shuttles between a multi-storey apartment in south Bengaluru and a retirement community in north Bengaluru, says, "Best suited for lone senior citizens because they will struggle even in a multi-storey apartment complex."

Yashwant Singh, who stays in a mixed community, says, "Retirement community is best for seniors whose children live abroad."

Viji, who stays in a mixed community, says, "We had visited, and even stayed in a retirement community for a few days. It was great. But, I don't see a lot of benefit for seniors staying in a multi-storey apartment in shifting to a retirement community. In a mixed community, neighbours are always ready to help at any time of the day or night. Plus, being around children makes you feel young."

The general consensus was that seniors living in a multi-storey apartment complex get the least benefit by shifting to a retirement community. Such people are amidst a vibrant community comprising people of all ages. They get to interact with people from various age groups. They can seek help from neighbours if and when needed. Their major challenges are cooking and upkeep of the house.

While Yashwant Singh is all for a mixed community in a multi-storey, he says that seniors can reap the benefits only up to a point. "Even in a mixed community in a multi-storey apartment complex, people are okay up to the age of 70-75. After that, most people need some sort of help," he explains.

Comparatively, people living in independent homes would benefit more from shifting to a retirement community. In independent homes, they need to cook and clean the house. Besides that, they need to maintain the property for which they might have to engage electricians, plumbers, and gardeners. Apart from these, they need to keep in mind their security needs.

Eshwar, who stays in a retirement community, says, "In an independent home, you need to lock every window and door at night every day."

All things considered, the concept of retirement homes is definitely finding a lot of takers.

Dr. Uma Maheshwari Yuvaraj, Joint Managing Director of Ananya Group that operates Ananya's Nana Nani Homes in Coimbatore, says, "Nowadays, people in the 50-55 age group are making the purchase. People nearing 50 start investing.

They rent the house for some time, shuttle between the two places to experience a retirement community before deciding whether to move in."

Achal Sridharan, founder of CovaiCare, says, "Earlier, investors were looking at medical and dining facilities. Now, people are looking at activities because they want to live an active life."

With average life span on the rise, senior citizens are doing everything possible to make the most of the 30 years ahead of them post-retirement.

French start-up Le Wagon comes to India

The company offers bootcamps and technical courses such as web development, data science and data analytics

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Technical education start-up Le Wagon has announced its venture into the Indian market with its India office in Bengaluru. At an event held in the city, Boris Paillard, CEO & Co-Founder of the French company, officially announced the launch.

"Le Wagon choosing Bangalore to be the first campus for its debut in India is not nearly a coincidence."

"We are the IT capital of the country, we are also a start-up hub, and we are also a ground for global R &D, which makes it very natural for an organisation like Le Wagon to come to India and start with Bangalore as its launchpad," said Ruth D'Souza Prabhu, senior journalist, during the event.

'What we hope to bring to India is not just a technical course provider, but also to train a new generation of tech talents,' says Boris Paillard, CEO & Co-Founder of the company. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Boris Paillard

The company, which offers bootcamps and technical courses such as web development, data science and data analytics, comes to India after having expanded to 40 cities across the globe.

Successful start-ups

Highlighting the success stories of the 30,000-plus people trained by the company across the globe, Paillard said that the company has helped them find jobs in the tech industry and launch start-ups themselves without depending on a technical resource.

"We have helped create more than 200 start-ups, not just in France, but in Brazil, in Berlin, in London... The skills were not just useful for them to kickstart, but also to grow because when you are launching a technical start-up, you need to understand the underlying product that you're building,' he said.

According to the company, the start-ups created by Le Wagon alumni have cumulatively raised around $1 billion till date.

Acknowledging that India was a leading tech hub already, he, nevertheless, suggested that given the fast pace at which technologies such as AI were evolving, India cannot simply rely on the edge it has enjoyed historically and need to train a new generation of talents that will be able to adopt new skills.

"What we hope to bring to India is not just a technical course provider, but also to train a new generation of tech talents," he said.

Intersectionality in tech

"We need people from different backgrounds, different understandings and different nuances to come together to solve for issues that we have, including this city's current problem of rain and traffic," said Shreya Krishnan, MD-India at AnitaB.org, while speaking at the event.

Susanna Jacob, India Cohort Lead, Le Wagon, concurred and noted that the vision of the company in India is to bring the country's diverse talent to the platform and give them the tech skills that would help them be more relevant.

"The transformative journeys and experiences that the 30,000 alumni all over the world have had is what I want to bring to Le Wagon India," she said.

Paillard too expressed interest in seeing people from diverse backgrounds being part of the bootcamp.

"I think it allows to solve problems that were way harder to solve before. So, I would love to have a variety of projects and success stories from diverse backgrounds," he said.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 22, 1975

Karnataka Ordinance on Retirement Age of Teachers

Bangalore, May 22: The Karnataka Government today promulgated an Ordinance fixing the age of retirement of teachers at 55. The Government through a notification in January last year had reduced the age of retirement of certain categories of Government servants from 58 to 55. Teachers of the old Mysore area whose age of retirement at the time of the reorganisation of the State was 58, challenged the notification in the High Court which held the view that under the Karnataka Civil Service Rules the said notification did not have the intended effect of reducing the retirement age of teachers.

Ex-gratia Payment to Families of Bus Accident Victims

Bangalore, May 22: The State Government, in a special order to-day, announced an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 500 each to the families of those who were killed and Rs. 300 each for those who suffered serious injuries in the bus accident which took place near Hassan on May 20.

The Deputy Commissioner of Hassan would disburse the amount to the relatives of the dead.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

IN SHORT

How the title Gesu Daraaz came about

The story goes that when Khwaja Banda Nawaz along with other disciples, lifted the palanquin bearing Hazrath Nasiruddin, Khwaja Banda Nawab's long hair got stuck into the foot of the palanquin. But he did nor disentangle them. When Hazrath Nasiruddin came to know about this, he recited a Persian couplet and gave him the title of Gesu Daraz, one with long hair.

How Banda Nawaz came to south

Following Timur's invasion of Delhi in 1398, Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz and his followers travelled to Gwalior, Chanderi, and then to Daulatabad, which was under the rule of Bahmani Sultans. Noted historian Richard Eaton writes in his Book how getting Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz to Kalaburagi was a political act on the part of the Sultan.

Several books authored by the Saint

As per records, Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz authored 105 books. Some researchers and scholars claim that he wrote 125 books. But in some records and the library authorities at Khaja Banda Nawaz Dargah, talk about 36 books that are available.
He authored books on Sufism and other subjects in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu.

Persian architecture of the Dargah

The dargah features a Persian and Indo-Saracenic architecture, showcasing intrcate craftsmanship through its intricate designs. the tomb of Banda Nawaz is surrounded by a spacious courtyard. People also take part in qawwali sessions inside the Dargah. The Khaja Bandanawaz University of Medical Science in Kalaburagi is made in his honour.

Legacy of Banda Nawaz and urs

His urs, celebrated on the 15th–17th Dhu al-Qadah, brings in devotees from different parts of India and from different backgrounds, spreading the message of brotherhood. He wrote Miraj-al Ashiqeen making Islamic teachings accessible to the masses, around the world. His dargah is a reflection of interfaith harmony where his legacy will continue for generations.

Kalaburagi cherishes the enduring historical legacy of Banda Nawaz

The final resting place of Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz Gesu Daraaz in Kalaburagi attracts devotees from different faiths

Praveen B. Para
KALABURAGI

Two revered saints of the Chishti order -- Hazrath Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti and Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz Gesu Daraaz -- spread Sufism in India, one in the north and the other in the south, respectively.

It was at the fag end of 14th Century that Bahmani ruler Firuz Shah invited Banda Nawaz to his capital Kalaburagi and requested to settle down here. For 22 years, the Sufi saint was engaged in a wide range of religious activities here, often blending mainstream Islamic practices with those of spiritual practices, to the people across Kalaburagi and the Deccan region. The Sufi saint passed away on November 1, 1422.

Today his resting place in Kalaburagi is not just a relic of the past, but a shrine of peace and reverence. Besides spreading Sufism, his greatest contribution was the introduction of the Dakhani language in the Deccan, which later became Dakhni Urdu.

Khawaja Banda Nawaz tomb. ARUN KULKARNI

Birth and migration

The Sufi Saint Mohammad Gesu Daraaz, also known as Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz, was a disciple of Hazrath Nasiruddin Chirag Dehlavi in Delhi, who eventually took over as his successor.

Old structures with the dargah complex. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The place where Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz stayed for 22 years. ARUN KULKARNI

The library of the dargah. ARUN KULKARNI

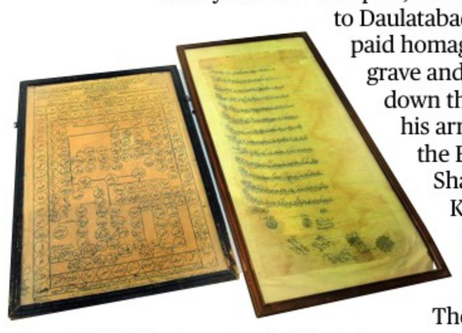
His patronymic name was Abul-fatah and Gesu Daraz was the title given to him by his mentor. Among the scholars and theologians he was Shaikh Abul-Fatah Sadr Uddin Muhammad Dehlavi but popularly he was known as Khwaja Banda Nawaz Gesu Daraz.

Banda Nawaz was born to Syed Walshareef Muhamad bin Yousuf Al Husaini in Delhi on July 13, 1321. Though he spent his childhood days in Delhi, his family was forced to migrate to Daulatabad following the then Sultan of Delhi Muhammad Bin Tughlaq's decision of changing his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad. Banda Nawaz lost his father when he was 10. After knowing about Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya from various Sufis, his eagerness of becoming his disciple brought him back to Delhi.

But Auliya had already left and his place was occupied by his successor Shaikh Nasiruddin Chirag Dehlavi, of whom Banda Nawaz became disciple in 1336.

After 20 years, in 1356 Shaikh Nasiruddin Chirag Dehlavi bestowed on Banda Nawaz the permission to maintain his own circle of disciples and passed away the same year. Banda Nawaz took charge of his preceptor's monastery and stayed at Delhi for the next 44 years teaching at the Khanqah - where he carried out the act of Da'wah- religious discourses.

Before the Timur invaded Delhi Sultanate in 1398, the 80-year-old Banda Nawaz along with his family and few disciples, embarked on a journey to Daulatabad again, where he paid homage to his father's grave and intended to settle down there. On knowing of his arrival to Daulatabad, the Bahmani ruler Firuz Shah invited him to Kalaburagi. Since then, his name is firmly associated with Kalaburagi.



(From left) A Shijra (genealogy) of Prophet Mohammed and Farmaan, a decree written by Hasan Shah Wali (former Sajjan Nasheen of Hazrath Khwaja Banda Nawaz) ARUN KULKARNI

The Sufi Saint significantly contributed to the world of poetry and Islamic literature. He authored several books on Sufism and other subjects in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu. His writings, particularly his poetry, convey the core philosophy of Islam and mysticism.

The library of the dargah in Kalaburagi is a repository of rare collections on books, manuscripts, farmaans, holy Quranic inscriptions and literary works of Khwaja Banda Nawaz. Collection includes Tasawwuf (Sufism), Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence) and Ilm-e-Kalam (discourse).

The history of Sufis and a commentary of the holy Quran titled *Tafsir-e-Multaqit*, written by Banda Nawaz, in Arabic language, however the library has got only its photocopy and the original copy of which were in London Library and Kutubkhana Asifia in Lucknow.

The library also preserves rare collections of other great Sufis such as the original volume of *Awariful Maarif*, the famous Persian treatise on Sufism written by 12 th century Sufi Shahab al-Din Abu Hafs Umar al-Suhrawardi. *Tafseer-e-Azeezi* - a translation and commentary on the holy Quran, written on silk pages by 18 th century scholar Shah Abdul Aziz, is another treasure by the library. Though the calligraphy was done 200 years ago, the text retains the original texture. The Urdu translation runs underneath every line of the Arabic text. The Quran sharif weighs 20 kg consisting of 1,151 pages

An imperial firmaan (Decree) written in 1578, by Hasan Shah Wali (former Sajjada nasheen of Banda Nawaz) in Khat-E Shikasta, in Persian language; and the writings of the firmaan run in the pattern of a sword. The collection has also got Shajra (Genealogy) from Prophet Adam to Prophet Muhammad, inscripted on the cloth.

This historic library is visited by research scholars from American and British universities. To preserve these literary treasures for future generations and make them accessible online to benefit researchers, scholars and the common public, the former Sajjada Nasheen Dr. Syed Shah Khusro Hussain and the present Sajjada Nasheen Syed Shah Muhammad Ali Al-Hussain took a proactive role in digitizing manuscripts and restoration and rebinding of the old books.

Architectural features

The grandeur of the historical dargah with a mausoleum of a 14th century Sufi saint beckons every visitor to step into a world where history and devotion intertwine.

The interior was subjected to renovation in the 90s with mirror work that obscured the original Deccani motifs. Certain details such as the five-faceted mihrab, the fluted trefoil squinches, the sprawling dome designs, and arches echo the Indo-Islamic and Persian style of architecture creating a unique blend with the Quranic inscriptions and litany of holy names. The very entrance of the mausoleum features intricate geometric and floral designs, a hallmark of the Indo-Saracenic architectural style. The mausoleum of the Banda Nawaz built by the then Bahmani rulers Firuz Shah and Ahmed Shah, is said to be the largest among all the Sufi saints' tombs, explains Mohammad Ismail, a numismatist and researcher who extensively studied Bahmani architecture.

Main entrance to the mausoleum. SPECIAL AARANGEMENT

Researchers Ismail and Mohammad Ayazuddin Patel narrate the historical background of each tomb and the structures scattered within and around the main tomb in the shrine. Another marvelous monumental structure in black stones in dargah premises is said to have been built for Chand Bibi, wife of Ali Adil Shah I.

A courtyard and gigantic arch gate towards the south of the Dargah. ARUN KULKARNI

However, she was not buried here and the monument is called as Khali gumbad.

Towards south, facing the Khaja Banda, Nawaz's tomb is the old main entrance gate of the dargah, which remains closed now. The grandiose arch is framed by two square towers with openings on four levels and overhanging balconies. A gallery over this arch is decorated with leaf-shaped merlons. The Spandrels of arch and roundels depicting elephants carrying lions, below the arch a small chamber with a curved vaulted roof structure at the centre recalls the Mughal architectural elements. This ceremonial arch opens to a courtyard consisting of rooms for pilgrims, a small mosque and a library-with overhanging balconies on brackets are assigned to the Adil Shahi period, claims the researchers.

The Khanqah -a Sufi's abode located to the southeast of the court yard was a residence of Banda Nawaz , where he lived for 22 years conducting spiritual activities.

Preserving the legacy

The present Sajjada Nasheen Syed Shah Muhammad Ali Al-Hussaini has continued the legacy with enthusiasm.

Sajjada Nasheen's grandfather Padmasri Hazrath Syed Shah Muhammad Al Hussaini Saheb was instrumental in establishing schools and colleges for Girls under Khaja Education Society in 1958, which was a pioneering step towards women empowerment and set a precedent for girl's education in the community.

The Philanthropist has built a veritable educational empire, having 24 institutions. In 2007, former Sajjada Nasheen Dr Syed Shah Khusro Hussaini succeeded him. He established Khaja Banda Nawaz University (KBNU) in 2018 bringing all the higher educational institutions run by Khaja Education Society under one umbrella. Now, the present Sajjada Nasheen Syed Shah Muhammad Ali Al Hussaini has continued this tradition.

Annual Urs

The annual Urs-e-Sharief (death anniversary) of Banda Nawaz is observed on 15,16,17 Dhu al-Qadah (11th month of Islamic calendar) with the flag hoisting ceremony (Parcham Kushai) marking its beginning.

The Sajjada Nasheen of dargah performs the traditional ritual and ceremonial observances during three-days. Devotees cutting across religious boundaries participate in the Sandal procession followed by the fortnight long urs.

INBRIEF

Centre blacklists contractor involved in highway collapse

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has barred the company involved in constructing the elevated National Highway-66 portion that collapsed in Kerala's Malappuram district from participating in tenders for two years, effective May 19. The punitive action transpired after the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader and Malappuram MP E.T. Muhammad Basheer met with Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday.

Close relative arrested after death of toddler in Kerala

The Puthencruz police in Ernakulam, Kerala, on Thursday arrested a close relative of a four-year-old girl who was allegedly murdered by her mother, on charges including rape. The 36-year-old accused, one of the two brothers of the deceased child's father, was taken into custody after the post-mortem report suggested her body bore marks of 'chorionic' sexual abuse. Meanwhile, the Chengamanad police took five-day custody of the mother.

It was a gift by Parameshwara at Ranya Rao's wedding: DKS

Home Minister says college staff told to cooperate with Directorate of Enforcement probe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even as raids by the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) continues at Home Minister G. Parameshwara-run Sri Siddhartha Academy for Higher Education Tumakuru, on Thursday in connection with the Ranya Rao's gold smuggling case, Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar, referring to a ₹40 lakh transaction flagged by the agency said that it pertained to a gift by Dr. Parameshwara at Ranya Rao's wedding. This came even as Dr. Parameshwara refused to comment on the Ranya Rao link.

The ED raided 16 locations linked to Ranya Rao's financial transactions on Wednesday, which included hawala operators among others.

ED sources said that an educational trust had cleared credit card bill of Ranya Rao to the extent of ₹40 lakh. Sources said while the payment was made on the instructions of an influential individual, the institute did not have any supporting documentation.

D.K. Shivakumar speaking in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Following the raids on Wednesday, Mr. Shivakumar visited Dr. Parameshwara at his residence on Thursday morning and later spoke to mediapersons on multiple occasions through the day.

"As the party president I have to ask him about the raids on his institutions and as to why his name was cropping up. Dr. Parameshwara said it was a gift during a marriage. We are in public life, we run institutions and we give a lot of gifts to people we know – ₹1 lakh, ₹10 lakh, ₹5 lakh, ₹10 lakh, nothing wrong in it," he said, adding that Dr. Parameshwara may have helped an officer working with him during a marriage in the family by giving a gift and it was "natural".

He further sought to distance Dr. Parameshwara from allegations of gold smuggling against Ranya Rao. "As far as the woman's activities are concerned, no politician, let alone a senior leader and Home Minister like Dr. Parameshwara would ask her to smuggle gold. As politicians we meet thousands of people and we cannot be sure of the antecedents of all of them. The case against her is unrelated and let the law take its own course, we will not interfere," he said.

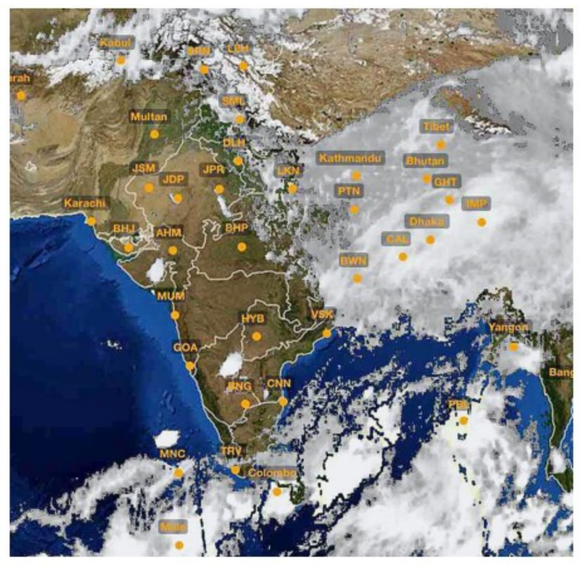
Meanwhile, speaking to mediapersons on Thursday, Dr. Parameshwara said ED officials had raided three colleges of Sri Siddhartha Academy for Higher Education.

"They came on Wednesday and Thursday and raids are still on. I have asked our staff to cooperate with the officials and give all accounts they ask for," he said.

When quizzed over the link to Ranya Rao case, he said it was not prudent to comment when the investigation was under way. "Let the investigation be completed," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, central Maharashtra, Marathwada, Konkan & Goa, coastal & interior Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	18	31.6	26.6	Kozhikode	0.9	33.2	26.0
Ahmedabad	—	41.0	30.1	Kurnool	1	35.3	25.2
Aizawl	8.3	27.8	21.2	Lucknow	6.4	33.9	22.0
Allahabad	1.5	35.8	23.4	Madurai	—	37.5	26.1
Bengaluru	—	29.2	20.4	Mangaluru	23.6	31.7	23.7
Bhopal	—	37.4	25.4	Mumbai	27	33.4	22.5
Bhubaneswar	1.6	32.8	27.0	Mysuru	—	31.4	21.2
Chandigarh	23	34.0	22.1	New Delhi	12	34.7	20.8
Chennai	—	36.6	28.5	Patna	—	34.5	26.4
Coimbatore	—	33.0	24.4	Port Blair	50	31.6	24.4
Dehradun	2	33.8	21.7	Puducherry	—	35.8	26.2
Gangtok	4	22.8	16.2	Pune	16.4	31.0	23.8
Goa	—	30.0	28.0	Raipur	11	40.3	23.7
Guwahati	10	32.0	23.7	Ranchi	—	30.8	21.0
Hubballi	—	29.0	23.0	Shillong	19	22.4	16.2
Hyderabad	39	32.6	23.0	Shimla	6.1	30.2	15.6
Imphal	—	28.1	20.5	Srinagar	—	34.4	15.4
Jaipur	—	42.8	27.0	Thiruvananthapuram	16	33.2	25.0
Kochi	7	32.4	25.6	Tiruchi	—	36.7	26.4
Kohima	—	21.2	19.1	Vijayawada	16	34.7	24.2
Kolkata	42	34.4	22.3	Visakhapatnam	10	30.9	26.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.18	..30	10	... 123	...106	
Bengaluru	...6	..19	31	 70	...184	
Chennai	...5	..10	30	 51	...101	
Delhi	.25	..92	31	 92	...124	
Hyderabad	.27	..19	37	 45	93	
Kolkata	...9	..43	30	 61	61	
Lucknow	...9	..46	54	 52	72	
Mumbai	...9	176	..2	 64	68	
Pune	.10	..33	81	 62	70	
Visakhapatnam	.10	..46	25	 47	76	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman & Nicobar Islands recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 318 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Cauvery Authority reviews storage position of reservoirs in river basin

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on Thursday reviewed the storage position of all the reservoirs in the Cauvery river basin.

After chairing a meeting that lasted nearly 45 minutes in New Delhi, the Authority's chairman, Saumitra Kumar Haldar, told *The Hindu* over phone that the current storage of the reservoirs was better than the long-term average.

The Meteorological Department had forecast that the incoming Southwest monsoon would be "above normal".

To a query whether the CWMA had given any direction to Karnataka to ensure the release of water as per the schedule – 9.19 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) in June and 31.24 tmcft in July – Mr. Haldar replied in the negative, adding, "The monsoon has not yet set in. We will see first the pattern of flows, storage of the reservoirs and requirements."

He pointed out that the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) would meet every 15 days, and the CWMA every month. The Committee's meeting had been scheduled for June 10, two days before Tamil Nadu would commence the release of water from the Mettur reservoir for irrigation.

As on May 20, the realisation by Tamil Nadu stood at 301 tmcft, about 125 tmcft higher than what had been stipulated for the elapsed period (June 1, 2024 to May 20, 2025). On Thursday, Mettur's water level stood at 110.77 ft (full level: 120 ft), with the storage being 79.5 tmcft (capacity: 93.47 tmcft). On the corresponding day in 2024, the storage was 17 tmcft, and the water level 48.76 ft.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer,
PWD Bengaluru Division, 2nd Floor,
PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-01
Phone No. 080-22133370 E-mail:**eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com**
E-Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home**

Corrigendum / Addendum Notification No.: 02-2/2025-26 Date: 21.05.2025

With reference to this office Tender Notification No: 02/2025-26 Dated:15.04.2025. Tender for the work of **Selection of Consultant for Providing Transaction Advisory services for Development of Land Parcels (6 Sites, 2 Properties) Located at Bengaluru Division on PPP Mode. Tender Reference: PWD/2024-25/SE0306** Addendum issued for Pre-bid Queries in the Tender Document/KPP Portal of the work are Corrected as mentioned below:
EMD & Tender Processing fee are mentioned in KPP Portal. (1) Condition Mentioned: Last date for Submission of Technical Bid+Financial Quote: **23.05.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.** Condition to be read as (Ref.KPP Portal): The Last date for Submission of the proposals shall be extended till: **03.06.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.** (2) Condition Mentioned: Date of opening of Technical Bid: **26.05.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.** Condition to be read as (Ref.KPP Portal): Date of opening of Technical Bid: **04.06.2025 at 16.30 Hrs.**
Note: All other condition of tender notification remains unaltered.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Bengaluru Division, Bengaluru
DIPR/DD-C.P/800/KSMCA/2025-26

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. B/TRD.2025-26/03
Dated : 19-05-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Provision of retro-reflective number plates in Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 3,15,72,043.29

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs on 09-06-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction Distribution, Bengaluru
PUB/130/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE
State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka has accorded Amendment in Environmental Clearance for the "Design Modification of Mixed Development Project Comprising of Residential, Commercial Offices (SEZs), Retail and Multiplex" by M/s. L & T Construction Equipment Ltd - Realty Division and M/s. Sparkle One Mall Developers Pvt Ltd at Khatha No. 239/240/275/88/1 and 240/276/89/1 of Ward No. 07; Sy. No. 88/1(P), 89/1, 89/2, 90, 91, 92/1, 93/1, 93/2 (A), 93/2B, 93/3, 93/4, 93/5, 94/1, 94/2, 94/3, 94/4, 95/1, 95/2, 96/1, 96/2, 97/1, 97/2, 97/3, 98/1(P), 98/2, 98/3, 98/4, 99, 100/1(P), 101/1A(P), 101/1B1, 101/2(P), 101/3(P), 102/1(P), 102/2 (P), 102/3(P), 103, 104/1(P), 104/2, 104/3, 104/4 of Byatarayanapura village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore – 560092, vide EC Identification No: EC24B3812-KA5225786A and File No.: SEIAA 160 CON 2018 dated 07.01.2025 under the provision of EIA Notification, **14th September 2006.**
Copy of the Clearance Letter is available with the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen at website of the PARIVESH portal.
(Authorized Signatory)
M/s. L&T Realty Developers Ltd

PUBLIC NOTICE
We, Suresh R S/o Ramanna (Aadhaar No.5433 3161 1657) (Pan No.ESGPS6824E) and Swetha G W/o Suresh R (Aadhaar No.3962 2919 3071) (Pan No. MVCPS8504E) R/ at Seshadri Nivasa, No.07, Shambhavi Nagar Main Road, GKW Layout, Laggere, Bengaluru-560058 do hereby solemnly inform the public through vide affidavit dated 21.05.2025 sworn to Notary P.C. Ramaiah that, we have intended to purchase 2 Acre and 36 Gunta land situated in Old Sy. No.10/2, New Sy.No.10/2A situated in Aralapura Village, Yediyur Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District from K.V. Manjunath S/o Late Venkategowda (Aadhaar No.9646 6034 3775) (Pan No.CCWPM7307J) and Yashasvini R W/o K.V. Manjunath (Aadhaar No.3270 0449 8790) R/at No.194, 5th Cross, Kumararama Road, Gavipuram Extension, Hanumanthanagar, Bengaluru - 560019. Both the parties have entered into an Sale Agreement through E Stamp Certificate No.IN-KA84940634544457X dated 19.03.2025.
We now request public in particular or any person having Liability, Disputes, Ownership rights or Partition rights or any disputes or if any person(s)/ institution(s) extended mortgage loan on the schedule property to approach us with suitable supporting documents within Seven Days from the publication of this matter or contact Mob: 9611634662. If no objection is received within stipulated period, we will proceed with the purchase of the said property.
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 21.05.2025

THE HINDU GROUP
SPORTSTAR
DAY 63
INDIAN POSTER LEAGUE
Play now & start winning!

1. Which cricket team's logo features a fern in black and white/silver colors?
2. Prior to the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup final, which edition featured two teams in the final that had never won the title before?
3. Which Kiwi bowler shared the highest wicket tally in the 2015 Cricket World Cup, equaling the red-hot Mitchell Starc?

*T&C apply

Scan QR code or visit **newsth.live/SSIPLPA** to take the quiz. Get all three answers right and unlock a legendary Sportstar poster. **Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.**
Yesterday's poster: Diego Maradona
Yesterday's Winners:
1. Vishal.PV, Cochin | 2. Tushar Chaubey, Lucknow | 3. SK. Sirazuddin, Cuttack

Two more charged in Kerala Maoist case

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has chargesheeted two more accused in the 2022 Kerala case relating to the recruitment of youth into the armed wing of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist). The NIA filed the chargesheet in the agency's Special Court in Ernakulam. It identified the accused as R. Raghavendran, Gautam alias Murukesh, B. G. Krishnamurthy alias Vijay, Babanna Bhaskar alias Kumara, and Gangadhara alias Gopal Rao.

It alleged the accused were active members of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA), an armed insurgent group with pockets of resistance in Central India. The agency registered the case *suo motu* on February 22. The case related to the PLGA's attempt to recruit impressionable and disenfranchised youth from Kerala into their ranks for combating security forces.

The NIA also accused the PLGA of organising study classes in Kerala using various fronts to enlist youths in its radical cause.

The NIA alleged that B. G. Krishnamurthy, a Central Committee member of the CPI(Maoist), imparted arms training and ideological indoctrination of potential cadres. He also organised guerrilla training camps in the Western Ghats forests to "wage war against the nation."

Kerala Raj Bhavan event on Operation Sindoor triggers row

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A talk on Operation Sindoor, organised by the Kerala Raj Bhavan on Wednesday, has sparked a heated political debate, particularly due to the attendance of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) ideologue and editor of *Thuglak* magazine S. Gurumurthy as the lead speaker.

The session, which was themed 'Paradigm shift from candlelight to BrahMos', was chaired by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan condemned the event and slammed the Raj Bhavan for politicising the gubernatorial office by inviting the RSS leader to speak at a function honouring the defence forces involved in Operation Sindoor.

"Raj Bhavan is not the platform for such political speeches. Inviting an RSS leader to speak at such an event, especially with remarks aimed at previous governments, is unfortunate and inappropriate," Mr. Satheesan told mediapersons on Thursday.

While Mr. Satheesan did not oppose the event on Operation Sindoor, he emphasised it would have been more suitable to invite military experts or foreign policy specialists to speak on the subject.

Wounded monkey seeks help from vet

The animal walked in unassisted and sought treatment. Video of the primate's visit was shared widely online; incident shows evolution enables animals to develop sharper senses, says expert

Rishikesh Bahadur Desai
BELAGAVI

Doctors and staff in a government veterinary hospital in Bagalkot district were in for a pleasant surprise when a patient walked in unassisted on Thursday.

A wild monkey came to the doctor and pointed a finger at its rectum where it had a wound. It waited for the doctors and staff to apply medicine to the injured area. Once the treatment was over, the sentient being jumped off the doctor's bike. The incredible incident occurred in Gudur SC village near Ilkal.

A pleasant surprise: The wounded monkey getting treated by a doctor at a government veterinary clinic in Gudur SC village of Bagalkot district on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Veterinarian G.G. Billor, who was standing near his bike outside the clinic, made the monkey lie down on the seat.

Dr. Billor said that he was shocked at first. "But then I realised that it needed help. It pointed out at the wound and I realised that it must have been the result of a fall. We treated it as per protocol. It went away after the procedure," he said.

One of his staff members recorded the visit of the monkey. The video clip was shared widely on social media.

"It is not unnatural for animals to seek human help when they are in need. However, it is very rare for a monkey to zero in on a veterinary clinic and find the doctor. It only shows that evolution is enabling wild animals to develop sharper senses," Director, Research, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University B.V. Shivaprakash said.

Misplaced urgency

The Madras High Court has in effect undermined a Supreme Court ruling

By staying the operation of Tamil Nadu's multiple amended Acts – to the extent that they empower the government to appoint Vice-Chancellors (V-Cs) of 18 State universities – the Madras High Court has effectively halted the momentum that followed last month's landmark Supreme Court verdict, which granted deemed assent to 10 Bills on which the Tamil Nadu Governor had inordinately delayed action. The interim order, delivered by Justices G.R. Swaminathan and V. Lakshminarayanan, effectively restores to the Governor-Chancellor, the powers of appointing V-Cs, which those very Bills had sought to divest. The result is a continuing stalemate: nearly a dozen universities remain headless, with appointments frozen until further judicial intervention. The Vacation Bench, acting on a petition by a lawyer, held that interim relief was justified because the impugned Acts "fall foul of the law" laid down by the Supreme Court in prior rulings on V-C appointments. These include *Professor (Dr.) Sreejith P.S. vs Dr. Rajasree M.S.* (APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University) and *Gambhirdan K. Gadhvi vs The State Of Gujarat* (Sardar Patel University). In both cases, the appointment of V-Cs was quashed for violating Regulation 7.3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations, 2018, which govern the composition of search committees and procedures for V-C appointments. The High Court rejected the State's argument that it had adopted the UGC Regulations in 2021 with a caveat excluding Regulation 7.3. The judges held that stripping the Chancellor of appointment powers was plainly unconstitutional – "... is so glaring and obvious that we cannot shut our eyes," they wrote.

What is equally glaring, however, is the misplaced urgency with which the Bench moved to deprive the amended Acts of legal effect. The High Court overlooked the Higher Education Department counsel's submission that the State had mentioned before the Supreme Court seeking urgent listing of a petition to transfer the instant case to itself; and that the Supreme Court had indicated that the High Court may be apprised of this fact. Judicial propriety would suggest that a lower court must exercise restraint in such cases. Moreover, the interim order was passed without affording the State adequate time to file its counter affidavit. In any case, while the current impasse on V-C appointments in Tamil Nadu persists, given the conflicting case precedents – *Kalyani Mathivanan* and *Jagdish Prasad Sharma* among them – the Supreme Court, should it hear the case, must settle, once and for all, the critical question: can UGC Regulations issued by a subordinate authority override State legislation enacted under constitutional authority?

No ceasefire

Russia is utilising the deepening chasm among Ukraine's key allies

Ukrainian and Russian officials met up in Istanbul, Türkiye, last week, their first direct meeting since March 2022, the year when Russia invaded Ukraine. Little was achieved except for one agreement on swapping 1,000 prisoners of war each. The Ukrainian delegation rightfully complained that Moscow had made "new and unacceptable demands". Russia's posturing, however, seems to be a consequence of the dithering by Kyiv's key ally, the U.S. In the run-up to the meeting, Kyiv, which has been on the back foot in the conflict, losing substantial territory in the east and reeling under failures such as the retreat from the Kursk offensive, had sought a 30-day ceasefire – an outcome that the U.S. was also pushing. While the U.S. has been discernibly less enthusiastic about continuing to arm and support the Ukrainians, during Donald Trump's second term in the White House, Kyiv's European allies had urged Moscow to agree to the ceasefire, or face increased sanctions and the transfer of weapons to Ukraine. After pushing Kyiv to the meeting without the ceasefire as a precondition, Mr. Trump had said on the eve of the Istanbul meet that it would not yield anything until he met directly with Russian President Vladimir Putin. True to his mercurial nature, he went on to say that the conditions of a peace deal – which he has been pushing as a means for the U.S. to exit the conflict – could only be negotiated between Russia and Ukraine, with possible help from the Pope.

Amid this diplomatic uncertainty from Washington, the Russians have shown no inclination to back down from their maximalist demands on rejecting security guarantees for Ukraine in the event of a truce, and for its demilitarisation. This week, Russia continued to launch a barrage of attacks. Kyiv did manage to rally its European allies to support it militarily while imposing fresh sanctions on Russia. But the Ukrainian regime's precarity in its eastern regions is evident with Russia continuing to hold on to significant territory and gaining ground in fresh incursions from the east. With Mr. Trump showing scant regard towards taking a consistent position, and seemingly staking out a line that is different from that of the Europeans, Kyiv might be left with a Hobson's choice – accommodate some of Russia's territorial demands to begin the process of peace or endure the attritional war with limited support. Mr. Putin might have seized the upper hand in the geopolitical dynamics of the war, but its effects have been devastating for Moscow as well. Reason suggests that peace would yield greater dividends than continuing an illegal invasion and this should allow for a fresh impetus for talks leading to a ceasefire. The ball is in the Kremlin's court.

Tariff wars and a reshaping of AI's global landscape

Arindam Goswami

is a Research Analyst in the High-Tech Geopolitics Programme at The Takshashila Institution, Bengaluru

In the aftermath of the presidential election in the United States in 2024, renewed implementation of substantial tariffs could lead to a fundamental restructuring of global technology supply chains that power artificial intelligence (AI) development. While established players recalibrate, countries such as India are finding themselves in a precarious, yet potentially advantageous, position – as the "third option" in the technological rivalry between the U.S. and China.

The tariffs have raised the costs of imported components that are critical to AI infrastructure. In 2024, electronics imports to the U.S. alone were nearly $486 billion, with data processing machine imports costing around $200 billion, sourced largely from tariff-affected countries such as Mexico, Taiwan, China, and Vietnam. These tariffs risk making the U.S. the most expensive place in the world to build AI infrastructure, driving companies to relocate data centre construction abroad, ironically to China.

The first wave of the Trump tariffs, between 2018-20, resulted in a price increase for imported semiconductor components. The current tariff regime has expanded this to as high as 27% on critical AI hardware components in 2025, particularly affecting specialised AI accelerators and advanced logic chips, components that constitute the computational foundation.

Economics behind the scenes

Economic theory suggests such tariff policies should stimulate domestic production through import substitution. Indeed, some reports project that the U.S. will more than triple its domestic semiconductor manufacturing capacity from 2022 to 2032, which is the largest projected growth rate globally. However, classical Ricardian trade theory reminds us that comparative advantage remains operative even under protectionist regimes. The specialised nature of AI hardware production means that it has to deal with dispersed technical capabilities, creating inevitable inefficiencies when global supply chains are artificially segmented.

This protectionist approach often comes at the cost of economic efficiency and innovation. The tariffs disrupt global supply chains, increase production costs, and create uncertainty that discourages investment. Empirical studies show that a one standard deviation increase in tariffs can reduce output growth by 0.4% over five years, and reversing the recent U.S. tariffs could have led to a 4% cumulative output gain. In the context of AI – where innovation cycles are rapid and dependent on access to cutting-edge technology and global collaboration – such disruptions can slow technological progress and reduce productivity.

> There could be an impact on economic efficiency and innovation, but some countries could find themselves in a precarious, yet potentially advantageous, position

Tariffs may shield domestic firms from competition, reducing their incentive to innovate, and limit access to advanced imported technologies that are necessary for AI advancement. This is consistent with what economists call a "deadweight loss", where the diminished trade volume creates economic inefficiencies that benefit neither producers or consumers.

Rapid expansion in AI chip demand will require massive increases in data centre power capacity, from about 11 GW in 2024 to potentially 68 GW by 2027 and 327 GW by 2030. Failure to meet these infrastructure needs could undermine the U.S.'s competitiveness in AI.

Research demonstrates that access to expensive, advanced computational infrastructure serves as a primary determinant of innovation capacity in AI, leading to a stratification effect. Moreover, tariffs imposed by developed countries can reduce technology transfer rates, temporarily changing innovation incentives, which can in turn, slow down the overall pace of AI innovation. On the other hand, tariffs by developing countries can speed up technology transfer but affect relative wages and innovation differently. This is a complex interplay that can increase global inequalities in AI capabilities.

Where India stands

This could create unexpected opportunities for India, which has positioned itself as a strategic "third option" in the U.S.-China technological competition. Indian IT exports growth rates have been around 3.3% to 5.1% year-over-year in recent years. AI and digital engineering segments are among the fastest-growing areas within India's tech sector. The Indian government has launched significant AI-related programmes, and increased semiconductor design, fabrication and technology investments, with several billion dollars in semiconductor fab proposals and multinational research and development centres such as AMD's $400 million design campus in Bengaluru.

India's comparative advantage lies in lower labour costs and specialised knowledge domains. India produces approximately 1.5 million engineering graduates annually, with a lot of them showing considerable aptitude for AI development.

India depends heavily on imported hardware components and international collaborations for this. Tariffs and supply chain disruptions that raise costs of AI infrastructure could slow down India's global ambitions in AI. However, India might also benefit indirectly if companies seek alternatives to China for manufacturing and data centre locations.

The economic reshaping catalysed by these tariff policies has accelerated what economists call "capital substitution effects". As hardware costs rise, companies increasingly shift toward optimising existing resources through algorithmic efficiency, model compression techniques and hardware improvements rather than raw computational power. The tariff environment has effectively created these price signals. The cost of using AI models is falling dramatically (by about 40 times a year) due to this. Therefore, while tariffs may increase upfront infrastructure costs, consumer-level AI applications might not see immediate price hikes.

Tariff structures interact with differential regulatory environments uniquely to create novel competitive dynamics. Lenient data protection regulations, broad digital access, and data availability can partially offset hardware cost disadvantages through greater access to training data. Regulatory and economic factors can defy simplistic analysis.

Decentralised AI development

Tariff changes have led to the development of specialised AI hardware that is designed specifically for particular applications rather than general-purpose computation. This "application-specific integrated circuit" (ASIC) approach represents an architectural shift. To optimise data centre infrastructure for AI inference, over 50% of workload accelerators could be custom ASICs by 2028, up from 30% in 2023.

Ironically, policies intended to strengthen domestic technological capabilities could inadvertently accelerate the decentralisation of AI development. Historical analogies suggest that technologies facing market constraints often evolve toward more distributed implementations. The mainframe-to-personal computer transition of the 1980s offers an instructive parallel.

Use international law to take on Pakistan-backed terror

Prabhash Ranjan

is Professor and Vice Dean (Research), Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University

Operation Sindoor has powerfully demonstrated India's intent to use kinetic measures to tackle terrorism emanating from Pakistan. In addition to executing "hot pursuits", India possesses other potent non-kinetic strategies, going beyond regular diplomacy, to ensure that Pakistan is held accountable for its continued support of terrorism directed against India. An impactful approach that India has not effectively employed so far is the strategy of "lawfare", or leveraging international law to confront adversaries to accomplish strategic and diplomatic objectives.

Leverage terrorism conventions

A key element of a lawfare strategy against Pakistan should be to deploy international law to highlight Pakistan's sponsorship of cross-border terrorism. This is especially important as India has led the process of adopting a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) at the global level. India and Pakistan are parties to numerous terrorism conventions at the regional and international levels. The primary regional treaty is the SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism, while key international treaties include the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (ICSFT) and the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (Terrorist Bombing Convention).

These conventions obligate that states not only criminalise acts of terrorism under their domestic laws and prosecute the perpetrators but also refrain from financing such activities. For instance, Article 2(1) of the ICSFT explicitly classifies terror financing as a crime. Similarly, Article 6 of the Additional Protocol to the SAARC terrorism convention requires states to take measures to prevent, suppress, and eradicate the financing of terrorism.

Pakistan has a long history of sponsoring, abetting, and funding terrorism against India. Following the terror attacks in Mumbai in 2008, India meticulously gathered evidence to demonstrate Pakistan's active involvement in those attacks, which Islamabad later acknowledged, albeit reluctantly. India needs to consistently publicise proof of Pakistan's role, which includes the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22.

> A clear and compelling narrative that uses international law and indisputable facts will help India in its fight against cross-border terrorism

Further, India should utilise all international forums to build a solid legal case against Pakistan for its violations of international law regarding terrorism suppression. India's move to have all-party parliamentary delegations travelling abroad to present India's case on Operation Sindoor is an ideal opportunity to do this. India should identify specific provisions in terrorism conventions, along with various United Nations Security Council Resolutions that sanction terrorism, and customary international law that Pakistan is violating, and highlight these publicly.

Rather than mere diplomatic hyperbole, a clear and compelling narrative entrenched in international law, grounded in indisputable facts and supported by irrefutable evidence will significantly benefit New Delhi's fight against cross-border terrorism.

Use the ICJ

A critical aspect of many terrorism conventions is that they grant jurisdiction to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to enforce the treaties. For example, Articles 20(1) and 24(1) of the Terrorist Bombing Convention and the ICSFT, respectively, empower a country to refer disputes to the ICJ. These provisions, known as compromissory clauses, help circumvent jurisdictional obstacles in international law, which is based on consent. Thus, countries that are signatories to these treaties are bound by ICJ jurisdiction unless they make specific reservations. Ukraine, for instance, invoked such a clause when it sued Russia before the ICJ for violating the ICSFT.

Given that Pakistan has been sponsoring and abetting terrorism against India and has not taken any action against terror groups operating from its territory, New Delhi has a compelling case against Islamabad under these terrorism conventions, which it can present to the ICJ – just as it did in the Kulbhushan Jadhav case.

Hurdles to overcome

However, there are two significant hurdles. First, Pakistan has not accepted the ICJ's jurisdiction under the ICSFT due to a reservation, which could hinder efforts to hold Pakistan accountable. Nevertheless, India can still file a case with the ICJ to draw global attention to the issue. India should put the ball in the ICJ's court to address Pakistan's jurisdictional argument.

Second, and perplexingly, India has adopted a reservation about the ICJ's jurisdiction under the Terrorist Bombing Convention, while Pakistan has accepted the ICJ's jurisdiction for this convention. This obstacle can be overcome if India withdraws its reservation, allowing it to initiate proceedings against Pakistan at the ICJ for terrorism. The ICJ may likely interpret the provisions of the ICSFT and the Terrorist Bombing Convention narrowly, similar to its approach in the Ukraine vs Russia case decided last year. Therefore, India should have fool-proof evidence and devise its legal strategy accordingly. The dissenting opinion of judges such as Hilary Charlesworth in *Ukraine vs Russia* can come in handy for India. In any case, India should not be overly concerned about the outcome of the legal dispute. Instead, it should utilise the legal proceedings to assiduously promote a global narrative against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, aligning it with its national objectives.

In sum, international law and courtrooms can also be used to combat terrorism. To accomplish this, India must build state capacity and mainstream international law in statecraft.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Israel and western world

The change in stand by Canada, France and the U.K. in the context of the belligerent and brutal campaign on Gaza by Israel, is also a part of a churning in the current global disorder, marked by a complete disregard for the UN Charter by nations with economic and military clout.

It is a pity that over the last few years, we have been witnessing "expedient silences" and also an abstaining from voting opportunistically at international forums being portrayed as brilliant tactics even in matters where flagrant breaches are evident. Value-neutrality among diplomats is threatening to spell the end of diplomacy as the most effective method of dispute resolution

Angara Venkata Girija Kumar,
Chennai

Judiciary, appointments

I write this letter as Senior Advocate, and President, Tamil Nadu Advocates Association (TNAA). While it may be true that the data analysis in the 'Datapoint', "Madras HC judge picks: 88% not from general category" (Opinion page, May 19, 2025), pertains only to the appointments made in the last couple of years during the tenures of two former Chief Justices of India, and " is based on the latest data recently released separately by the Supreme Court", the analysis projects an incorrect picture.

The fair representation of all communities in the higher judiciary is a topic of concern to the legal fraternity. A well-known case, *The Registrar General of Madras High Court vs R. Gandhi* (AIRONLINE 2014 SC 170), has dealt with the issue and the Supreme Court made a specific observation that all unrepresented communities and underrepresented communities from all sections of society be given fair representation in elevation as judges of the courts.

It would be appropriate to mention the questions in Parliament with regard to social diversity in higher judiciary; unstarred question number 3117, on representation of judges from the weaker sections in the Supreme Court and High Courts is one example. In this unstarred question, four issues were raised regarding the percentage of each community's representation in the Supreme Court and High Courts. The data sought was for 2014 onwards, but the Union Ministry of Law and Justice used data from 2018.

Based on the information provided, it was seen that out of 684 High Court judges appointed since 2018, 21 belong to the SC category, 14 to the ST category, and 82 to the OBC category, with 32 from minorities.

The data provided was once again re-iterated with a few additions to another unstarred question raised and answered on March 20, 2025. It was mentioned that out of 715 High Court judges appointed since 2018, only 22 are from the SC category, 16 from the ST category, 89 from OBCs and 37 from the minorities.

The fact is that from 2018 to 2022, 80% of judges were appointed from the upper caste, or the general category. Now, nearly 78% of the judges are upper castes.

S. Prabakaran,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name.

Is establishing the truth a problem during a conflict?

Nirupama Subramanian

Independent journalist who was The Hindu's correspondent in Pakistan from 2006 to 2010

Pratik Sinha

Co-founder, AltNews, a fact-checking website

PARLEY

Parallel to the recent escalation of military tensions between India and Pakistan, misinformation and disinformation surged online, making it increasingly difficult for the public to distinguish fact from fiction. Many media outlets published sensational stories riddled with unverified claims, and disseminated fake pictures and videos. Jingoism often drove the public response. Is establishing the truth a problem during a conflict? Nirupama Subramanian and Pratik Sinha discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Mandira Moddie**. Edited excerpts:

Are there any rules for reporting during times of military conflict? How do we balance national security implications versus the public's right to know?

Nirupama Subramanian: Indian media houses have not framed rules for coverage of conflicts. This is particularly sad given that independent India has had so many military conflicts with Pakistan and China. We have also had internal conflicts – Maoist insurgencies, secessionist movements, and the militancy in Kashmir, which has elements of war because of the cross-border nature of the violence.

The only rules we have are the basic rules for journalism – your responsibility is to inform the public with accuracy, verify your information from the government and the adversary, and collect information from multiple sources. These are all ways to get as close to the truth as possible. In other words, this is what is meant by being objective. Many people understand objective to be the same as neutral. You can take sides and still be objective, right? And these are all pathways to that. Then, of course, the commitment to your viewers and readers that you don't spread misinformation – at least not knowingly. You have to know the difference between propaganda and real (information). During a conflict, there is an element of national security – you're not supposed to give out troop movement.

But during conflicts, especially in those that involve your own country versus another, these rules are the first casualty. In India, we have seen this loss of objectivity even when the government battles sections of its own citizens – in Kashmir or in the north-east or in the Maoist insurgency-hit States. Journalists become instruments through which the government wants to keep the national morale up. And they just drop their commitment of informing the public. Loyalty to the nation is demanded by the government. The danger is that this can also become loyalty to those in power.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri speaks during a special briefing on 'Operation Sindoor', in New Delhi. PTI

Pratik, how did Operation Sindoor play out on social media?

Pratik Sinha: What I have seen over the last few years is that while there may be some amounts of misinformation happening unknowingly, most of it is fairly strategised across multiple layers. The communication strategy also depends on who needs to set the narrative. On day one (of Operation Sindoor), when the strikes happened, there were videos from Pakistan, even before we all woke up, of people being injured and of broken buildings. Compare this to 2019 when the Balakot strikes happened. Some (in India) claimed then that (a former Pakistani diplomat had stated that) 300 terrorists had been killed in the strikes (but his comments were misreported). Not one image of an injured or dead person was spread then. But this time, it was Pakistan which got into the race of narrative-building first, because it was Pakistan which felt the need to set a narrative.

On day two, things started to change. In India, when propaganda happens, it is not just on social media; many mainstream media channels said that we have attacked Karachi port or reached Islamabad. Then social media began amplifying that by saying we have gone far inside Karachi. By day three, there was just a crazy amount of misinformation on Indian social media and (sections of) the mainstream media.

When someone says Karachi port has been attacked, no one in Karachi is watching this because Indian channels are blocked there; it is Indian viewers who are reacting to this. Almost all war propaganda is directed at a country's own citizens.

We saw a lot of dramatic representations of war from the TV studios. What are the pressures for journalists these days?

> What I have seen over the last few years is that while there may be some amounts of misinformation happening unknowingly, most of it is fairly strategised across multiple layers.
>
> PRATIK SINHA

NS: Actually, this should be the best time for journalists, for journalism. But unfortunately this is also the worst time for journalism. There was some really cringe stuff we got to see on TV. Channels have discovered that demonising Islam and Muslims garners good TRPs. So a military conflict with Pakistan is like a halwa for them.

I don't think TV channels are able to present the horrors of war as such. For instance, I would have liked to know what actually happens in a nuclear conflict. Nuclear weapons are discussed like firecrackers. People do not understand that these are weapons of mass destruction. I don't think I saw anything on TV that could explain to me what the nuclear threshold is, what escalation means, what deterrence means, or what may happen if there is a nuclear conflagration. There was no discussion on the cost of war either. They were presenting this conflict as some kind of entertainment in the skies and people seemed happy to watch this because they felt that it didn't affect them.

The other pressure is external. The government demands loyalty by using punitive measures such as filing cases, shutting down news organisations, blocking online news organisations, and threatening mainstream media with a loss of advertisement revenue. Journalists are getting the message that they should not try to find out what is happening on the other side. But what is happening with your adversary is important to understand. What are the people in Pakistan thinking? I am learning that there will be consequences if you keep contacts with people there.

The other thing is the power differential in a military conflict. With China, we saw during both the Doklam crisis and in Ladakh in 2020 that the the media was very restrained, very well behaved. With Pakistan, it's open season because of that power differential.

The normative role of media is to ask questions to power. But even asking questions is seen as a problem sometimes. Doesn't the public have the right to know?

NS: I think there is an expectation that in these kinds of situations, journalists must suspend their questioning of the government because all that matters is that you boost the war effort. Even citizens don't want journalists to question the government, and governments are only going to give out information that is favourable to them. Governments will justify this as something to do with troop morale. I can imagine that for a soldier hearing about losses when he is in the middle of a war can be really crushing. But why is the government not providing information about losses even now? We still don't know the full extent of what we lost when China made incursions into Indian territory in 2020. Because if this is made public, questions will be asked of the government, the government will be made accountable, and that may impact on the politics of the country. This is why they want to control the information.

During Operation Sindoor, X announced that it had received orders from the Union government to block some 8,000 accounts in India, including those of news organisations and prominent X users. How can the public hope to understand any issue when differing viewpoints are suppressed?

PS: The simple answer is that we cannot and the reason for blocking is that we should only get a selective view. This has been in the making for a very long time. It's just that during this conflict, we saw an extreme version of it. For example, Hindutva Watch, which does critical work in documenting hate crimes and hate speech, has been blocked in India for the longest time. Conflict time makes it convenient to suppress criticism. Under the garb of nationalism, anyone who is critical is being termed anti-national.

The Indian media is in a time of crisis. I'm talking about the entire ecosystem, which includes social media, YouTube, and all other platforms. The way our Foreign Secretary got trolled depicts what we have become as a society. And on top of that, there is no access to well-rounded information.

NS: To imagine that by blocking people on X you block out news completely is absurd. Yes, you may block out some actors, but the fact that India suffered some losses was in every respectable news report across the world. There was no way that the government could control all that. There is a limit to which it can control the narrative; it can't control it entirely.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

A day in the life of a data journalist

The excitement and challenges of weaving together data stories over the course of a day

Vignesh Radhakrishnan

At 10 a.m., I begin scanning the papers for the day's news. Exactly 12 hours later, a colleague from the data team and I will need to deliver a 600-word piece with supporting graphs for the 'Data Point' section on the oped page. Like a cyclone far out at sea, the deadline feels distant and harmless at this time of the morning, but the rumblings of the storm can be heard.

Having long abandoned the practice of presenting our data stories as mere collections of facts, we now seek news pieces that allow for a narrative arc. The numbers must come together as a symphony. Every story needs a peg and a purpose. It must be built around a central argument, supported by evidence that reinforces the core takeaway.

And so we hunt for stories that can branch into compelling data narratives. We find that dog bites are on the rise in Kerala; at least three children have died in the past month. It is a strong story, no doubt, but we have covered it before. With no new angle to cover, we move on. The U.K. Prime Minister is rolling out new immigration rules; how will this affect Indians? It is a viable lead, but the data resides on U.K. websites and foreign datasets take time to decode. This cannot be done in a day. The Supreme Court has slammed the Enforcement Directorate. Promising, but the data is patchy at best. What about Virat Kohli's poor form? The Reserve Bank of India's latest report? The record in the sales of electric vehicles? The shrinking of Arctic ice? Or the highest single-day death toll in Gaza?

A dozen ideas are discussed, but there are many more reasons why we cannot implement them. There is no data. Or there is patchy data. There is good data trapped in bad PDFs. Or there is bad data on well-maintained portals. There is data but no narrative arc. Or there is a great arc but no data. And sometimes we ask ourselves: why do this story now? Post-lunch, often when we are on the verge of giving up, an idea clicks.

At around 3 p.m., the data team shuffles into office. One member is working on a prospective video, another on an interactive, and yet another on smaller graphics across the paper. Soon the major focus will be on the centre piece of the day – Data Point.

The data sources are ready for extraction. Using AI-generated Python scripts, we begin pulling in the numbers. But the data is messy – there are columns with no labels, empty rows, odd characters, misaligned tables, and missing meta data. All this needs to be cleaned and understood before any real analysis can begin. It is a task that will take several hours. There are seven hours to deadline and the winds are picking up speed.

Finally, with the data in shape, the visualisations begin. Using tools such as Flourish, Tableau, and Google Sheets, the graphs start to take form. We discuss whether a line chart may work or a scatter plot. Will they fit the space?

Then come the deliberations with the print design team. The data and design teams often agree to disagree, pushing back and forth until a consensus is reached.

Post-dinner, a clean white document awaits. It is story time. Over 600 words need to be written with the news peg, context, and data. One and a half hours later, the story is sent to the page editor.

By 9.30 p.m., we find ourselves standing in the eye of the deadline storm. The newsroom is buzzing. The page editor is firing questions at us, the design team wants annotations on the charts, and we need to sign off on news page graphics. All the i's are dotted and the t's crossed. With each passing minute, tensions rise. By 10:15 p.m., we finally send the page for printing after taking some last-minute decisions. The storm has finally passed.

At 10 a.m. the next morning, I begin looking at the papers again. Another storm is brewing. It is harmless – for now.

vignesh.r@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK | The superhumans of Mumbai

A young girl practises Mallakhamb as monsoon clouds hover over Mumbai, at Shivaji Park. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 23, 1975

India and Canada may resume nuclear co-operation soon

New Delhi, May 22: India and Canada seem to be edging closer to an agreement on a limited resumption of nuclear co-operation despite their differing approaches to the whole question of test explosions whether for peaceful or potential military uses.

The recent technical discussions between Indian and Canadian nuclear experts in Bombay have helped to narrow down the gap between their respective ideas on additional safeguard procedures for ensuring that the equipment and materials supplied by Canada are used only for peaceful purposes.

The Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. John Maybee, had a long discussion yesterday with the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Kewal Singh, on all aspects of this problem.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 23, 1925

New anaesthetic for the old

A "Godsent" invention!

A new anaesthetic, beneficial for old people upon whom ordinary chloroform cannot as a rule be used, has been on trial for some months at the Westminster Hospital, where it is now being used to a great extent. Novocain as it is called was invented on the Continent, and has been used extensively in French hospitals.

From Page One

Befitting reply given to Pakistan, says PM

He said the armed forces were given full operational freedom and they dismantled Pakistan's defences by creating a *chakravyuh* (trap). In response to the April 22 terror attack, India destroyed nine of Pakistan's biggest terror hideouts in just 22 minutes, he said.

"The world and the enemies of the country have seen what happens when *sindoor* turns into *barood* [gunpowder]," he said.

Since Pakistan could not win a direct war against India, it was using terrorism as a weapon, trying to create an atmosphere of fear for several decades since Independence, Mr. Modi said, adding that India would no longer be restrained in its response to terrorism.

Taking a swipe at Pakistan, Mr. Modi said while the neighbouring country's attempt to target the Nal airbase in Bikaner had failed to cause any damage, the Rahim Yar Khan airbase situated across the border was extensively damaged in India's retaliation. "No one knows when it will open again. It is in the ICU," he said.

While asserting that henceforth there would not be trade or talks with Pakistan, Mr. Modi set out three key elements in dealing with the western neighbour. They included a befitting reply to the acts of terror, no intimidation by the nuclear threats, and no distinction between the state patronising terrorism and the so-called non-state perpetrators of terrorism. "The talks, if any, will only be about Pakistan-occupied Kashmir," Mr. Modi said.

CoBRA commando, Maoist killed in Sukma operation

Two commandos injured in encounter; Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai says Basavarju's killing in Narayanpur is a big achievement, and Maoists are now restricted to a small part of the State

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

A CoBRA commando and a Maoist were killed during an anti-Naxal operation in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on Thursday, the police said, adding that the gunfight continued till evening. Two commandos were injured.

Bastar IG P. Sundarraj and other officials inspect the weapons recovered during the encounter with Maoists on Thursday. ANI

The encounter came a day after 27 Maoists, including Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), were gunned down in Narayanpur district.

After being tipped off about the presence of Maoists in the Tumrel area bordering Sukma and Bijapur districts, a joint team of personnel from the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA), a specialised unit of the Central Reserve Police Force; the District Reserve Guard; and the Special Task Force had left for a search operation on Wednesday.

"An encounter is going on intermittently between the security forces and Maoists since Thursday morning. On searching the encounter site, the body of one Maoist, weapons, and Maoist material have been recovered. The body of the Maoist is being identified," a senior police officer said.

The officer said three commandos of the 210 CoBRA Battalion were injured in the gunfight. One of them died, while the others have been shifted to State capital Raipur for treatment.

Big blow to Maoists: CM

Speaking about Wednesday's operation in which Basavaraju was killed, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said Naxalites had been now confined to a very small area of the State.

Mr. Sai said this was the first time in three decades that a general secretary of the CPI(Maoist) had been neutralised, which was a huge success for the forces. "This is definitely a huge blow; Naxalism's back has been broken. I salute the bravery and courage of our security forces," he said.

He said Basavraju carried a collective reward of ₹3.25 crore on his head, which included a ₹1-crore bounty announced by the Chhattisgarh government.

Earlier, Vivekanand Sinha, Additional Director-General of Police (Naxal Operations), Chhattisgarh, said Basavraju's killing was "the most important achievement in the Naxal history of not just Chhattisgarh, but that of the whole country".

Left parties condemn encounter, demand dialogue with Maoists

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Left parties have condemned the encounter in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh on Wednesday in which 27 Maoists were killed.

Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, general secretary of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), was among those killed in the anti-Maoist operation.

The Left parties criticised the government for using violence instead of dialogue to resolve the problem.

'Govt. shunned talks'

The Communist Party of India (Marxist), in a statement here, said both the Union and State governments had ignored repeated appeals from the Maoists for talks, and chose not to pursue a solution through dialogue. "Many political parties and concerned citizens have appealed to the government to consider their request for dialogue. Instead, they are following an inhuman policy of killings and annihilation."

CPI general secretary D. Raja said this encounter was yet another "instance of extrajudicial action carried out under the guise of counter-insurgency operations".

In a post on X, Mr. Raja said, "...If the authorities had credible intelligence about the whereabouts of the leader, why was a legal arrest not pursued? Why was the due process – guaranteed by the Constitution – so blatantly ignored?"

CPI(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya said the encounter happened even after the Maoists had declared a unilateral ceasefire.

G. Devarajan, general secretary of the All India Forward Bloc, said the party's Central Committee condemned the extrajudicial killing of Basavaraju and 26 others.

Two Israel embassy staffers killed in U.S.

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Two Israeli embassy staffers were shot dead late on Wednesday outside a Jewish museum in Washington by a gunman who shouted "free Palestine", authorities said, with U.S., Israeli and other world leaders expressing outrage over the killings.

U.S. President Donald Trump condemned the attack, saying: "These horrible D.C. killings, based obviously on antisemitism, must end, NOW!"

"Hatred and Radicalism have no place in the USA," he said on social media.

Shots rang out on the sidewalk outside the Capital Jewish Museum as the venue held a social event for young professionals and diplomatic staff.

Victims were a couple

The victims were a young couple who planned to get married, the Israeli Ambassador said. Israel's Foreign Ministry identified the victims as Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Lynn Milgrim.

Mr. Lischinsky was a research assistant at the Israeli embassy, while Ms. Milgrim worked for its public diplomacy department, according to their LinkedIn profiles. Police confirmed the suspected shooter walked into the museum after the attack and had been detained.

Strike hits normal life in Imphal Valley over masking State's name

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Normal life was paralysed in Manipur's Imphal Valley on Thursday during the 48-hour general strike enforced by an influential Meitei organisation.

The Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) called the strike from May 21 midnight to protest the masking of the words 'Manipur State Transport' displayed on a government bus carrying a team of journalists to cover the Shirui Lily Festival in Naga-dominated Ukhrul. Armed forces personnel allegedly asked the bus travellers to mask the words.

Hundreds of protesters spilt onto the roads to enforce the strike. All vehicles were off the roads, and markets, educational institutions, and government and private offices remained closed. There were no reports of violence as the authorities deployed security personnel in sensitive areas to thwart any untoward incidents. The strike had little impact on Kuki and Naga-inhabited hills around Imphal Valley.

Nalanda University is in take-off mode, says its Vice-Chancellor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Eminent economist Sachin Chaturvedi, who took charge as the Vice-Chancellor of Nalanda University in Bihar on Wednesday, told *The Hindu* that the university expects enrolment of about 900 students in the new academic session. The university is in a "take-off mode", Professor Chaturvedi said, noting that 99% of the construction work has been completed.

He said the university, which functions under the External Affairs Ministry, is working to expand international connections by drawing students and faculty from across the globe.

Sachin Chaturvedi

"Nalanda will give the message of peace and promote more rigorous research to connect Indian philosophy with the contemporary world," he said, adding that the institution will bring together researchers, policy-makers and those in the diplomatic community.

Legacy of knowledge

Professor Chaturvedi is the Director-General at the think tank Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS). With the collapse of the 'Washington Consensus', the Global South requires a new philosophy of development drawn from a rich legacy of knowledge, he said. "We need to revisit that knowledge and my priority would be to bring it back for the Global South with a new development philosophy," he said.

To a question on administrative issues that had created hurdles, the Vice-Chancellor said the Bihar government had given almost 500 acres for the university. Of that land, 100 acres has been allocated for water bodies and 300 acres has been kept aside as forest, he stated.

"The connectivity has improved now. The admission has already touched 540 in various streams as of now. Our expectation is that this year it may go up to 900," he added.

Vlogger didn't have access to secret details, say police

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

The police custody of travel vlogger Jyoti Rani, arrested on charges of espionage a week ago, was extended for four days on Thursday. She was produced before a court in Hisar on completion of five days of police remand.

Not divulging any details, Hisar Superintendent of Police Shashank Kumar Sawan said the remand was sought on the grounds of "further investigation" required in the case.

The Hisar police, in a press statement, said that no evidence had yet emerged regarding the accused having access to any military, defence or strategic information and no facts have come to light, which can directly prove that she was in contact with any terror organisation. The police, however, maintained that she was in touch with some people knowing they were Pakistani intelligence officials.

Four bank accounts of the accused are being analysed, but the police refused to comment on the money transactions. The electronic devices seized by the police have been sent to the forensic lab for investigation, but the analysis is awaited, said the statement.

SC indicates mandatory registration of Waqfs began in 1923, not in 2025

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday said a requirement to mandatorily register Waqfs dated back to 1923, and this did not start with the Waqf (Amendment) Act of 2025.

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, heading a Bench including Justice A.G. Masih, asked why Waqfs across the country, including Waqfs by user, had not bothered to register themselves all these years.

The Centre had argued that registration had been made mandatory with the pre-Independence Mussalman Wakf Act of 1923. Post-Independence, the 1954 Waqf Act had retained the provision for mandatory registration of Waqfs.

The Waqf Enquiry Committee had noted the "persistent issue" of unregistered Waqfs and recommended stricter measures.

Even the Waqf Act of 1995 had reiterated the mandatory registration policy, including for Waqf by user.

Section 4 had empowered State governments to conduct a "comprehensive survey" of Waqf properties to identify unregistered ones.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, leading the rejoinder for the petitioners, said the lack of registration till 2025 was due to the failure of the State governments to do their job.

Legal intricacy: People gather outside the Supreme Court during a hearing on the amended Waqf law on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"Now the community is going to be punished for the failure of the State governments? The onus was on the States to conduct a survey of waqf properties since 1954. So far, only one State has completed the survey. Whose fault is this? So, will the community be deprived because State governments did not do their jobs?" Mr. Sibal asked.

'Essential concept'

He noted that though the previous Waqf Acts had made registration mandatory, they had also statutorily recognised Waqfs by user, which constitute roughly half of the more than eight lakh Waqfs in the country.

"The government's argument that 'Waqf by user' was created by legislative policy and can be taken away by legislative policy is wrong. The law cannot act like the Lord, giving and taking. The law had only recognised an essential Islamic concept like 'waqf by user'. The law did not create 'waqf by user', it only recognised this concept in Islam," senior advocate A.M. Singhvi argued.

The petitioners have argued that the 2025 Act will deprive unregistered Waqfs of their status, including centuries-old waqfs by user such as mosques and burial grounds.

'One of the five pillars'

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan countered the government's claim that the creation of Waqf, an act of charity, was not an essential part of Islam. Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the government, had said charity was a common feature in all religions, but not their essential part.

"Charity is one of the five pillars of Islam. Waqfs are essential, integral, and rooted in Islam. Waqf is an institution close to the heart of the Muslim community. It is interwoven with the entire religious and social life of Muslims. The argument raised by Mr. Mehta about essentiality was tailored to disentitle us from protection under Article 25 (freedom to practice religion) of the Constitution," Mr. Dhavan submitted.

The senior lawyer debunked the government's contention that the state was only regulating the secular aspects of waqf property administration by including non-Muslims in the Waqf Boards and the Central Waqf Council.

"The state cannot take away a minority community's administrative powers over their own religious endowments. Article 26(d) of the Constitution grants every religious denomination the right to administer its property," Mr. Dhavan pointed out.

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, also representing petitioners, said the 2025 Act required a person to prove he was a practising Muslim for five years before creating a waqf.

UAPA tribunal upholds govt. decision on Khasi group

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

An Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) tribunal has upheld the decision of the Union Home Ministry to declare the Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) of Meghalaya an "unlawful association" for another five years.

The Home Ministry informed the tribunal that 15-20 cadres of the HNLC, including its leaders Sainkupar Nongtraw (General Secretary) and Bobby Marwein, are currently based in Maulvi Baxar district of Bangladesh. It said the cadres use WhatsApp registered on Bangladeshi SIM cards to make extortion calls to businesspersons in Meghalaya.

The Ministry submitted that the HNLC was formed in 1995 to achieve "self-determination and liberation for the people of Ri Hynniewtrep (land of 'Khasis') from alleged authoritarian rule by the Indian government, aiming to protect the 'Khasis' and other tribes of Meghalaya from alleged exploitation and preserve indigenous culture".

The Ministry added that the HNLC was involved in illegal activities such as killings, abductions arms smuggling, and extortion.

High Court refuses to quash FIR against Zubair for his tweets

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Allahabad High Court on Thursday refused to quash the FIR lodged against fact-checker Mohammed Zubair for his tweets about religious leader Yati Narsinghanand. The court, however, continued the interim protection from arrest granted to Mr. Zubair in December last year.

During the hearing of the plea filed by Mr. Zubair to quash the FIR lodged against him by the Uttar Pradesh Police, a Bench of Justices Siddhartha Varma and Yogendra Kumar Srivastav ordered the fact-checker to cooperate with the investigation. The police had submitted to the court that the FIR was filed on the complaint of one of the priests at Dasna Devi Temple, Ghaziabad, Udita Tyagi. The complainant had alleged that Mr. Zubair, on October 3, 2024, had shared an old video of Mr. Narsinghanand with the intent to incite violence against him.

Mohammad Zubair

He was booked under charges of defamation, criminal intimidation, and others of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

In his plea, he stated that his post on X did not call for violence against the religious leader and that he merely alerted the police authorities to Mr. Narsinghanand's actions.

APPEAL

Master Yuvaneshwaran.P, CMC Hospital No. AH00110, 12 years old son of Mr. Parthiban admitted Christian Medical College has been diagnosed to have Myelodysplastic syndrome. This is a type of blood cancer. He is presently planned for a second haploidentical peripheral blood stem cell transplant (PBSCT). The esimated cost of haploidentical transplant at our center will come to approximately **Rs. 25,00,000/-**.

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/ D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Yuvaneshwaran.P, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

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Trinamool team visits villages hit by Pak. shelling

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI

Touring the villages in Jammu and Kashmir affected by the recent India-Pakistan military confrontation, a five-member delegation of the Trinamool Congress on Thursday said the residents living closer to the Line of Control (LoC) had borne the brunt of Pakistani shelling.

"We have come to Jammu and Kashmir on a journey of solidarity, empathy and sympathy. It's the border villages that have suffered the most. In fact, all the communities were affected by the Pakistani shelling as lives and livelihood were lost. We have come to convey that people of J&K are not alone, as people of Bengal and people of India are standing with them," the party's Deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha, Sagarika Ghose, said.

The delegation, which arrived in Srinagar on Wednesday, also met J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. "Mr. Abdullah told us in detail what the problems are of people in the border villages in Poonch, Uri and Rajouri," Ms. Ghose said.

Multi-party teams are on political mission against terror, says India

External Affairs Minister Jaishankar is touring Europe, while Foreign Secretary Misri visits Japan; 'we want the world to come together to fight terrorism tooth and nail in all its forms and manifestations,' says MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The multi-party delegations being sent to various global capitals are part of a "political mission" that the Government of India is carrying out to convey its serious concerns about cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan, Randhir Jaiswal, Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, said on Thursday.

Mr. Jaiswal's remarks came as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar continued his engagements in Europe, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri in Tokyo engaged the National Security Adviser of Japan, Masataka Okano.

"The central idea behind this is that this is a political mission. We want to make a strong outreach to the world, to convey our resolve to fight terrorism. We want the world to come together to fight terrorism tooth and nail in all its forms and manifestations," Mr. Jaiswal said during the weekly briefing.

Global outreach: A multi-party delegation led by Janata Dal(U) MP Sanjay Kumar Jha in Japan on Thursday. PTI

Explaining the purpose of the multi-party delegations that will visit 33 countries over the next fortnight, Mr. Jaiswal further said, "We want to exhort the world to hold those responsible for cross-border terrorism accountable, those have been practising this for 40 years against India – that is Pakistan – their actions need to be called out."

Seven party teams

India has announced seven multi-party delegations to leading partner countries, where they will meet principal political leaders and influencers. These groups, consisting of 59 delegates drawn from MPs, veteran diplomats and public figures, have started travelling out; first delegation left for the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday.

The delegation led by Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Eknath Shinde started its meetings in Abu Dhabi on Thursday and met with Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Co-Existence of the UAE. "India and UAE will tackle terrorism together. The UAE will always stand by India," said the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi, summing up the remarks from Mr. Mubarak Al Nahyan.

The Embassy said the delegation conveyed to the UAE that the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam was aimed at creating "social disharmony" within India.

'End to terrorism'

India's international campaign to highlight cross-border terrorism after the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam was also amplified by Mr. Jaishankar, who is on a three-nation tour covering the Netherlands, Denmark and Germany. In an interview with a Dutch publication on Wednesday, he said that India is seeking a "definitive end to terrorism".

"Our message, therefore, yes, the ceasefire has put an end to military actions against each other for now, but if the terrorist attacks from Pakistan continue, there will be consequences. The Pakistanis must understand that very well," he said.

India's global-scale campaign against terrorism was also the theme for the visit to Japan that Mr. Misri carried out on Thursday. In a daylong visit to Tokyo, he conveyed India's appreciation for the "support and solidarity" that came from Japan against the backdrop of the Pahalgam attack. He met with National Security Adviser Mr. Okano and Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Hiroyuki Namazu.

"Foreign Secretary's visit and his meetings today provided yet another opportunity to reflect on and reaffirm the two countries' shared determination to fight terrorism in all forms and manifestations as well as the support infrastructure behind acts of terror," the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday.

Mr. Misri's visit coincided with the Japan visit by the multi-party delegation led by Janata Dal (U) MP Sanjay Kumar Jha.

The delegation met with Japanese Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya on Thursday.

India reminds China and Turkiye of 'mutual sensitivities'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

> We expect Turkiye to urge Pak. to end its support to cross-border terrorism and take credible and verifiable actions against terror ecosystem it has harboured for decades
>
> **RANDHIR JAISWAL**
> MEA spokesperson

India on Thursday reminded both Turkiye and China that relationships are built on "mutual sensitivities", and urged Turkiye to play an active role in ending the growth of terrorism within Pakistan.

"We expect Turkiye to strongly urge Pakistan to end its support to cross-border terrorism and take credible and verifiable actions against the terror ecosystem it has harboured for decades. Relations are built on the basis of sensitivities to each other's concerns," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said during his weekly media briefing. His comments came against the backdrop of Turkiye delivering weapons to Pakistan even as India-Pakistan hostilities broke out earlier this month.

'Mutual trust'

Mr. Jaiswal also reminded China of the need for mutual respect, even as China hosted Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar days after India and Pakistan called for the cessation of firing and military actions.

"Our [National Security Adviser] NSA and the Chinese FM and Special Representative on Boundary Issue Wang Yi had spoken to each other on May 10, 2025, when the NSA conveyed India's resolute stance against cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan. The Chinese side is aware that mutual trust, mutual respect and mutual sensitivity remain the basis of India-China relations," he said.

PM should answer questions instead of delivering 'filmi dialogues': Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Terming Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech on Operation Sindoor in Bikaner as "grand sounding but hollow filmi dialogues", the Congress on Thursday said that Mr. Modi must instead answer the "serious questions" that are being asked of him.

"Why are the brutal killers of Pahalgam still free – according to some reports they had been responsible for three earlier terror attacks in Poonch, Gagangir, and Gulmarg over the past 18 months," Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh asked in a post on social media platform X.

Jairam Ramesh

Earlier in the day, while addressing a public meeting in Bikaner area of Rajasthan, Mr. Modi said that India had avenged the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack in 22 minutes.

'Stubbornly silent'

Posing four questions, Mr. Ramesh asked why the Prime Minister had not presided over any all-party meeting and taken the Opposition parties into confidence.

"Why have you not called a special session of Parliament to reiterate the unanimously passed resolution of Feb 22, 1994 and update it given the deep China-Pakistan nexus evident during Operation Sindoor?" Mr. Ramesh asked.

The Congress leader also asked why Mr. Modi has "stubbornly remained silent" on claims made by U.S. President Donald Trump that the U.S. had brokered a ceasefire between India and Pakistan.

Addressing a press conference at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters on the same issue, Lok Sabha member Praniti Shinde accused the Modi government of "converting every national crisis into a PR [public relations] event".

Special session

"A special session of Parliament should be convened to discuss Operation Sindoor and the Pahalgam attack. Why is Modi*ji* running away from this?" Ms. Shinde asked.

She asked whether the government wanted to "hide" something from the people.

"Maybe they [the government] don't want to admit that the whole nation is made to look weak on a global platform because of them," she added.

Incorrect to say India doesn't have a National Security Strategy, says CDS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into Union Territories would not have been possible without the elements – "policy, processes and organisational structures" – that constitute a National Security Strategy (NSS), the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan, says in a book authored by him. India does not have a written NSS, but it is "incorrect" to say that the country does not have one, he adds.

"Strategic analysts and political pundits in India and abroad often have been found stating that India does not have a National Security Strategy. That is incorrect and a myopic understanding of the issue. What we don't have is a written document called the NSS, which is published periodically by some Western nations," Gen. Chauhan writes in the book *Ready, Relevant and Resurgent: A Blueprint for the Transformation of India's Military*, which was released on Thursday.

General Anil Chauhan

"Israel, the most threatened nation on earth, does not have a written policy document/NSS," he writes, while stating that on the contrary, Pakistan issued a written National Security Policy in 2022 and soon ran into economic problems, political instability, rift between the armed forces and citizens and problems on its western borders.

'Lacked structures'

"They had the written document but lacked the organisational structures, processes and policies to secure the nation," General Chauhan adds.

An apex-level Defence Planning Committee (DPC) chaired by the National Security Adviser (NSA) was set up in 2018 to formulate an NSS and a National Defence Strategy (NDS) but there has been no update on the progress.

In the past, former Army chief General Manoj M. Naravane had said it was essential to have an NSS and NDS and a higher defence organisation in place and only then can the country think of integrated theatre commands.

General Chauhan says no nation could secure itself without a strategy in place. The important constituents of a strategy were policy, processes and organisational structures.

6 Kirti Chakras, 33 Shaurya Chakras conferred on defence, police personnel

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu conferred six Kirti Chakras and 33 Shaurya Chakras on personnel from the armed forces, the Central armed police forces, and the State and Union Territory police units at a ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Thursday.

Four of the Kirti Chakras and seven of the Shaurya Chakras were given away posthumously.

"The gallantry awards were given to the personnel for displaying raw courage, unparalleled bravery and total disregard to personal safety in the line of duty," a Defence Ministry statement said. They were honoured for the bravery displayed during various operations related to counter-terror and counter-insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and Northeast, the statement said. "Dreaded terrorists were neutralised and apprehended during these operations, and arms and ammunition were recovered."

President Droupadi Murmu presents Kirti Chakra (Posthumous) to kin of DSP Humayun Muzzammil Bhat in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

On Navy awardees

The Navy awardees led anti-piracy operations, resulting in the surrender of pirates and the rescue of hostages, while demonstrating bravery during fire-fighting operations on a burning oil tanker, the Ministry said on the awards presented for the Navy's operations in the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea as the Yemen-based Houthis threatened global shipping and as piracy attempts resurfaced.

The awardees from the Indian Air Force showed utmost courage in life-threatening circumstances during the rescue of aircraft, by manoeuvring away from civilian areas to avoid any loss of life/property. Officers of the CRPF displayed bravery during various operations in areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism, the statement said.

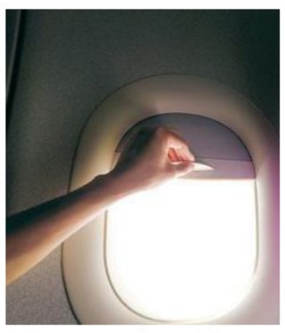
'Aircraft windows should remain shut during take-off, landing at defence airfields'

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a directive to airlines, helicopter and chartered plane operators, mandating that window shades for passenger seats remain closed for flights arriving into and departing from defence airfields until the aircraft reaches an altitude of 10,000 feet during ascent or after it descends below that height.

"The order was issued on the recommendation of the Ministry of Defence," a senior DGCA official told *The Hindu* on the condition of anonymity.

The May 20 order says, "All passenger window shades, where applicable, (except at emergency exit windows) shall remain closed during the take-off and landing phases specifically, until the aircraft is airborne and has crossed an altitude of 10,000 feet during departure, or during arrival, it descends below 10,000 feet and reaches the parking bay at the civil terminal." Airlines will also have to remind passengers that photography and videography are prohibited at military bases.



DGCA issues order to airlines on the recommendation of Ministry of Defence. GETTY IMAGES

Several defence airfields in India double up as commercial airports and are known as civil enclaves.

Airlines have been instructed to prepare standard operating protocols for their crew to address safety risks, including making announcements before take-off and landing at all Defence airports, "particularly those near the western Indian border". Violating these rules will lead to legal action against passengers, says the order.

Flag concerns

Several pilots, while speaking anonymously, flagged that keeping windows open during landing and take-off is a mandatory safety requirement as it helps visually monitor external environment and identify potential hazards such as an engine fire from either a technical fault or a bird strike, which are known to happen during the take-off and landing stages of a flight. The open windows also help ensure situational awareness in an event of emergency.

In response, a senior DGCA official said that the emergency exit windows were being kept open for these reasons, adding that the order will be reviewed in a week's time.

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APPOINTMENT

SAGARMALA
V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority
General Administration Department, Tuticorin
(An Autonomous Body under MoPSW, GoI)
GAD-EST10ESTC(EST)/37/2022-GAD/D. Date:23.05.2025
V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority invites applications for the following Posts:-
Direct Recruitment on regular basis:

Sl.No.	Class	Name of the posts	Scale of Pay (in Rs.)	No. of. Post
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2.	Class - I	Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Specialist)	60000-180000	1

For, details regarding experience, educational qualifications, etc., visit VOC Port's website at www.vocport.gov.in (careers). Last date for the receipt of applications is 21.06.2025.
Sd /23.05.2025
Secretary

INBRIEF

Two held for trespassing on Salman Khan's residence

A man and a woman were arrested separately for trespassing on Salman Khan's Galaxy Apartments in Mumbai's Bandra area, the police said on Thursday. On Tuesday, 23-year-old Jitendra Kumar Singh from Chhattisgarh entered the premises by hiding behind a resident's car after being asked to leave earlier. He told the police he wanted to meet the actor. The next day, 32-year-old Isha Chabaria reached Salman Khan's flat and was also arrested. "She claimed she knew Salman Khan," a police official said. Separate FIRs were registered, and the Bandra police have initiated investigations.
(With inputs from PTI)

CBI files chargesheet against Satya Pal Malik in graft case

The CBI filed a chargesheet against former J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik and others over alleged irregularities in awarding a ₹2,200-crore contract for the Kiru Hydroelectric Power Project. The case involves the Chenab Valley Power Projects Pvt Ltd (CVPPPL) Board reversing a decision to re-tender the project via e-tendering and awarding the contract to Patel Engineering in 2019. Mr. Malik served as Governor of Jammu & Kashmir from August 2018 to October 2019. CBI searches in February 2024 targeted over 30 locations linked to Mr. Malik and associates. Mr. Malik, currently hospitalised, accused authorities of harassment.

Bengal slams move to shift IPL final to Ahmedabad

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

A political row has erupted over the decision to shift the venue of the final match of the Indian Premier League and the second qualifier from Kolkata to Ahmedabad.

West Bengal Minister of Sports and Youth Welfare Aroop Biswas alleged on Thursday that politics was behind the cricketing move.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had announced that the second qualifier and the IPL final, scheduled to take place on June 1 and 3, respectively, will be held at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad instead of Kolkata's Eden Garden.

"The IPL play-offs and final have been moved from Eden Gardens due to political reasons. You are doing politics against Mamata Banerjee," the State Minister said.

"It is the IPL's rule that last year's champions' home ground will host the final," he pointed out, adding that the State government is protesting the shifting of matches.

He refuted claims of law and order problems or adverse weather conditions as justifiable reasons for the shift.

PM inaugurates 103 Amrit Bharat railway stations

Modi says these stations not only preserved thousands-of-years-old heritage but also served as catalysts for tourism growth across States, creating new employment opportunities for youth

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday inaugurated 103 Amrit Bharat railway stations through video conference from Bikaner, Rajasthan. These stations, situated in 86 districts across 18 States and Union Territories, have been developed at a cost of over ₹1,100 crore.

Mr. Modi also flagged off a train connecting Bikaner to Mumbai.

While inaugurating the stations, Mr. Modi said modernisation of more than 1,300 railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) was being carried out to improve passenger experience.

Mr. Modi said these modernised stations served as a showcase of local art and history. He cited examples, including Rajasthan's Mandalgarh station, which reflected the grandeur of Rajput traditions, and Bihar's Thawe station, which depicted the sacred presence of Maa Thawewali along with Madhubani artwork. The Orchha railway station in Madhya Pradesh exuded the divine essence of Lord Ram, while the design of the Srirangam station drew inspiration from the Ranganathaswamy temple. Gujarat's Dakor station paid homage to Ranchhodrai *ji*, the Tiruvannamalai station followed Dravidian architectural principles, and the Begumpet station embodied the architectural legacy of the Kakatiya dynasty.

The Prime Minister said Amrit Bharat stations not only preserved India's thousands-of-years-old heritage but served as catalysts for tourism growth across States, creating new employment opportunities for youth.

He said nearly 70 routes now operate Vande Bharat trains, bringing modern rail connectivity to remote regions.

He pointed out the infrastructure advancements over the past 11 years, including the construction of road overbridges and underbridges, as well as the laying of over 34,000 km of new railway tracks.

On track: Narendra Modi, along with Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, inaugurates 103 Amrit Stations from Deshnoke in Bikaner on Thursday. ANI

Govt. reserves 4% housing for persons with disabilities

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Urban Affairs Ministry has decided to make a reservation of 4% for persons with disabilities in the allotment of Central government housing.

The Department of Estates (DoE) has issued an office memorandum to ensure fair access to Central government residential accommodations for persons with disabilities in alignment with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs said in an official statement.

The Department of Estates is an attached office under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, responsible for managing and administering the government's estates, particularly in Delhi.

Move towards equity

The statement said the 4% reservation marked a substantial move towards equity, dignity, and accessibility in public services.

"This initiative reflects the government's dedication to the empowerment of every citizen and also strengthens the foundation of an inclusive and accessible India," it added.

Fresh round of survey on substance use will have a larger sample size

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Union government has started planning a fresh round of a nationwide survey to establish the extent and pattern of substance use, officials told *The Hindu*. This will expand on the 'National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India 2017-18', which was a first-of-its-kind study on estimating illicit drug use in the country.

The Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is currently in the process of finalising the formalities for it and the design for the survey is being readied, the official added.

They said that the fresh round of the survey is likely to have a sample size that is "three to four times" that of the one conducted in 2017-18 and that this round will try to gather patterns of substance use at the district-level.

District-level data on substance use can help design better interventions, officials say.

The 2017-18 survey on substance use had two components which were put together for the entire exercise. The first entailed a household survey, under which over 4.7 lakh people in about 2 lakh households across the country were sampled. This was followed by a respondent-driven survey (RDS), which specifically surveyed over 72,000 people with drug dependence, to account for the possible under-reporting of illicit drug use in the household survey.

Atul Ambekar of the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, which led the exercise, explained that this method involved picking 20 people with drug dependence in each district. Each of the respondents is then asked to refer three other drug-dependent persons and the chain is continued till a satisfying sample size is achieved.

The 2017-18 survey, which was the first time under-reporting was accounted for with the RDS method, had concluded that alcohol was the most used substance, with over 15 crore people estimated to be using it, of which around 30 lakh were estimated to be minors (between 10-17 years of age). This was followed by cannabis, opioids, sedatives, inhalants, cocaine, amphetamine type stimulants, and hallucinogens respectively, according to data from the survey presented in Parliament by the government.

It is "critical" to have data on substance use that goes beyond State-level to the districts so that interventions can be designed accordingly, an official said. While the previous survey had clubbed multiple similar substances under the same heading - such as cannabis (including *ganja*, *bhang*, and *charas*) or opioids (including heroin, poppy, and pharmaceuticals - experts have opined that it would also be important to see "granular" data about which pharmaceuticals are being used and abused.

Report on adolescent health records calls for more investments and laws

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

The second *Lancet* Commission on adolescent health and wellbeing has recorded that despite progress in some areas, without increasing investments, by the end of 2030, at least half of the world's adolescents – around 1 billion people – will live in multi-burden countries facing complex health challenges. Further, it has projected that in 2030, 464 million adolescents globally will be overweight and 42 million years of healthy life will be lost to mental disorders or suicide.

The report, released this week at the end of the commission's term, pointed out that funding for adolescent health and wellbeing is not commensurate with the magnitude of the challenge and is not targeted to the areas of greatest need. For example, specific funding for adolescent health accounted for only 2.4% of total development assistance for health in 2016-21, despite adolescents accounting for 25.2% of the world population.

The global population of adolescents constitutes around 24% of the world's population.

Launched in 2021, the commission included 44 commissioners, with meaningful involvement of 10 youth commissioners and 122 adolescents participating in Youth Solution Labs.

World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Adhanom Ghebreysus Tedros, writing in *The Lancet*, said: "Over the past two decades, adolescent mortality has declined by 27%, owing to substantial reductions in malnutrition and communicable diseases, and expanded access to education – especially for girls. These changes will pave the way towards greater gender equity and better life outcomes."

The global population of roughly 2 billion adolescents constitutes around 24% of the world's population. "The current generation of adolescents is the largest in the history of humanity...Projections suggest that by 2100 around 46% of the world's adolescents will live in Africa, and that 85% will live in Africa or Asia," the report states. The proportion of adolescents living in conflict-affected areas has more than doubled since the 1990s, now totalling 340 million.

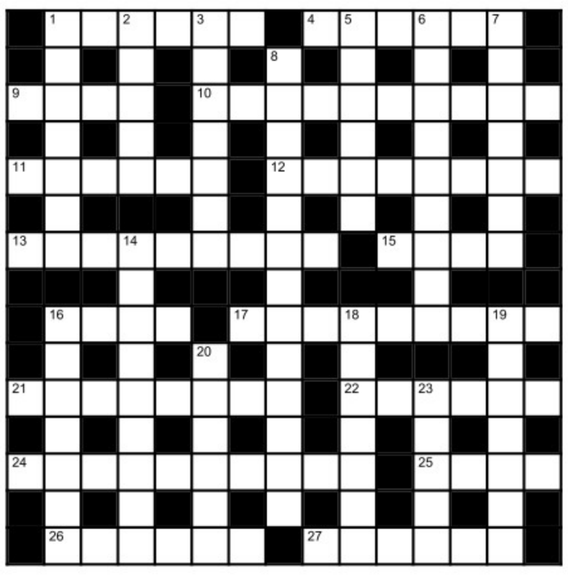
The report draws attention to the possible impact of social media on the lives of adolescents who it calls the 'first global generation of digital natives'. Globally, 79% of 15-24-year-olds use the Internet, and more than 95% of adolescents in high-income and upper-middle-income countries are digitally connected. It calls for "enabling laws and policies provide the foundational environments for sustained improvements in adolescent health and wellbeing. These environments should protect adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights, reduce the impact of the commercial determinants of health, and promote the healthy use of social media and online spaces."

TH CROSSWORD + 14492

(set by Hypatia)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Father met mother wearing a Japanese nightdress (6)
4 Drink after silly cat behaves badly (4,2)
9 Unidentified pain point manifesting periodically (4)
10 American dug entire ground for eco assessment (5,5)
11 Musical composition of ragas on a tanpura (6)
12 Press dispatch (8)
13 Derisive of actors in Indian attire at inauguration of Cannes (9)
15 Rank beginners in technical institutes earning recognition (4)
16 Co-ordinate on the phone for founder (4)
17 Skip exercise by students initially sorting types wrongly (9)
21 Monkey putting shelled nut in top portion of jaw (8)
22 Advise lacking love for one ailing (6)
24 Determined sibling cycling behind park before turning ten (10)
25 House fly? (4)
26 Attempts dissertations (6)
27 Repeatedly consider delivering cotton fabric (6)

Down

1 Curious girl's dad checking both gates (7)
2 Just undisciplined nationalists thwarting authority, basically! (5)
3 Hard gangster intercepts, attacks powerful tycoons (7)
5 John joining work before May's final projection (6)
6 Spooner secured spot for a pithy quote (9)
7 Murugappa interestingly, collected M.F. Hussain, say (7)
8 Entertainment box's live on-site (10,3)
14 Triumphs spending time for question in competitions (9)
16 Thai men's team has its regulars retiring (7)
18 Fancy this posh zone featuring hot dog (4-3)
19 Rallying cries exciting this romantic singer (7)
20 Spirit of weak man's ultimately bleak, sadly (6)
23 Old fellow promoted strange group (5)

SUDOKU

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3						1	9	4
	3	4			8			6
			3				8	
		7	2	6			4	9

No.SS6528 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	R	U	B	B	E	R	S	T	A	M	P	E	D	
		N		E		U		Y		O		Y		
S	A	L	O	N		S	T	R	A	P	L	E	S	S
T		A		E		S		A		E		B		I
O	U	T	O	F	J	O	I	N	T		P	A	I	L
N		C		A				N		S		L		L
E	T	H	I	C	A	L		O	U	T	P	L	A	Y
S				T		A		U		I				S
T	E	N	U	O	U	S		S	C	R	A	P	I	E
H		I		R		T				R		L		A
R	A	T	E		C	R	A	F	T	I	N	E	S	S
O		E		M		I		E		N		C		O
W	A	R	R	A	N	T	O	R		G	O	T	O	N
		O		S		E		M		U		R		
	M	I	S	S	I	S	S	I	P	P	I	A	N	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	8	3	6	1	4	5	9	7
4	7	9	8	5	3	1	6	2
1	5	6	2	9	7	3	4	8
7	6	2	5	3	8	9	1	4
9	4	1	7	6	2	8	3	5
5	3	8	9	4	1	7	2	6
8	1	4	3	2	5	6	7	9
3	9	5	4	7	6	2	8	1
6	2	7	1	8	9	4	5	3

FAITH

Message from Krishna leelas

Thirukkudandhai Dr. Venkatesh said in a discourse that the various leelas enacted by Lord Krishna are backed by different philosophies. His appearance before Devaki and Vasudeva in prison, sporting four hands, indicates that He is ever ready to extend the four precious tenets of Dharma, Artha, Kama, and Moksha needed for a pious life to His devotees.

Like dense clouds bringing heavy rain, Krishna, matching the colour of dark clouds, would pour down His rain-like grace on us.

When Krishna's father Vasudeva carried Him from prison to Gokulam, all the chains automatically disjoined. Likewise, He would detach us from the worldly tethers. Acharya Vedanta Desika says in "Yadavabhyudayam" that like how a jnani or yogi crosses the sea of samsara, Vasudeva crossed the river Yamuna.

There is no antecedent of God's divine feet causing harm. They will only shower blessings and grant moksha. The Lord kicked Sakatasura, who came to kill, and ultimately granted him Moksha. "Sakatam" denotes a wheel rotating by going up and down. We are also rotating in this world up and down by repeated births and deaths. Clinging onto His feet through surrender will stop the wheel of our rotation.

Antaryami Brahmanam of the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad says God is omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent and resides in every being as a micro form. As a macro form, He holds all the universe's beings in Him. When Yasodha asked Krishna to open His mouth, He showed her the universe.

INBRIEF

Weather anomalies impact vegetable prices: RBI bulletin

An increase in rainfall and temperature lead to an average increase of 1.24 to 1.3 percentage point in vegetable consumer prices respectively according to a paper in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) May bulletin. The RBI said a bumper kharif and rabi harvest along with policy measures had led to the average mandi prices of major food crops barring wheat easing below their Minimum Support Prices.

'In April, U.S. is top destination for engineering goods exports'

The U.S. was the top destination for Indian engineering exports in April with shipments worth $1.66 billion of a total of $9.51 billion of such exports from India. EEPC India said, iron and steel exports to U.S. grew 343% over April 2024 while iron and steel products shipped rose 11%. Industrial machinery exports grew 16%, electrical machinery and parts 11%, non-ferrous metals 6% and auto parts 1%. However, overall export of aluminium and products slid 7%.

Spices Board to disburse ₹130 crore under SPICED plan

The Spices Board plans to disburse ₹130 crore to almost 45,000 beneficiaries in 2025-2026 under the SPICED Scheme. The "Sustainability in Spice Sector through Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative Interventions for Export Development" (SPICED) scheme, with a total outlay of ₹422.30 crore and end in 2025-2026, is designed to expand area and improve productivity of cardamom and generate an exportable surplus through multiple initiatives.

Net FDI slumps 96% in FY25 to $353 mn, gross FDI robust

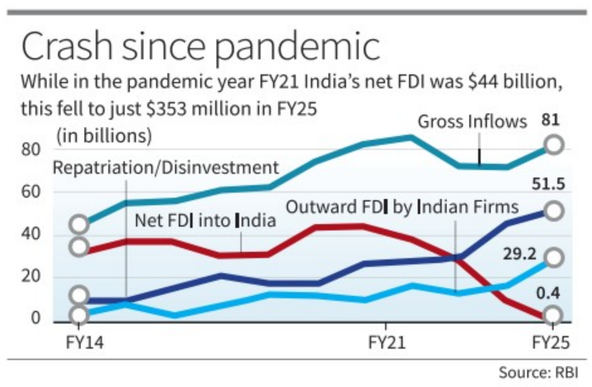
Net foreign direct investment (FDI) was dragged down by a surge in money being repatriated out by foreign companies and increased foreign investments by Indian companies;

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Net foreign direct investment (FDI) into India plunged by more than 96% to just $353 million in 2024-25 compared with the previous year, latest data from Reserve Bank of India shows.

Net FDI is basically gross FDI, which is the total money coming in, minus the money being repatriated by foreign firms doing business in India and outward FDI by Indian companies.

While gross FDI into India remained strong, the net FDI figure was dragged down by increased repatriation of money back to their home countries by foreign companies doing business here, and higher foreign investments by Indian companies.



The data, released as part of the RBI's May edition of its monthly bulletin, shows repatriation and foreign investments by Indian firms have increasingly played a part in lowering India's net FDI figures ever since the pandemic.

So, where the net FDI figure stood at $44 billion in the pandemic year of 2020-21, it fell to $38.6 billion the next year, $28 billion in 2022-23, $10.1 billion in 2023-24, and finally to just $353 million ($0.4 billion) in 2024-25.

Ola, Rapido also face notices for 'advance tipping' nudge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Central Consumer Protection Authority, under the Department of Consumer Affairs, is sending notices to Rapido, Ola and Uber over the ride-hailing apps' practice of seeking "advance tips" to hasten a trip booking's confirmation, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said on X on Thursday. Mr. Joshi had on Wednesday said a notice had been sent to Uber.

The three apps have in recent months pushed riders to tip more to hail a ride, giving drivers an opportunity to earn more money from a fare, which is otherwise subject to a commission to the firms running the apps. Such a practice, especially using it as a way to improve riders' chances of getting a confirmed ride is "deeply concerning," Mr. Joshi had said, calling them "unfair".

Spokespersons for Uber and Ola did comment. "Rapido has not received notice or communication from the Central Consumer Protection Authority or any other regulatory body," a Rapido spokesperson said, adding the fares are directly agreed upon between passenger and driver for cabs and autos.

While all three firms insist tips go completely to drivers, the recently-formed Rajdhani App Workers Union in Delhi said gratuity was "usurped" by platforms.

Bajaj Auto eyes €800-mn KTM buy

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Bajaj Auto Ltd., via wholly owned Bajaj Auto International Holdings BV (BAIHBV), said it plans to take control of KTM unit headquartered in Austria.

With this action and post requisite approvals coming through, Bajaj will move from hitherto being a dormant minority investor to a majority owner in the global KTM company while continuing to accelerate the KTM business run out of India under the joint development programme, where it develops, makes and sells in India as well as exports to 80 countries.

BAIHBV has arranged a debt funding package of €800 mn.

Also, BAIHBV has arranged a debt funding package of €800 million to enable the continuity of the KTM business.

Brokerages give 'sell' for IndusInd

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Brokerages including HDFC, Nuvama and IIFL securities advised their clients to reduce or sell IndusInd stocks in their portfolios after the bank disclosed further lapses and instances of fraud in its fourth-quarter review.

The bank reported its worst quarter, posting a net loss of more than ₹2,300 crore as it accounted for all the discrepancies accumulated over FY25, according to the bank's financial statements.

"IIB has been guilty of betraying stakeholder trust multiple times over the past few years with repeated episodes of misgovernance," said HDFC Securities in a report.

"Having admitted to multiple accounting lapses over the past couple of months, we believe IIB is faced with a severe loss of credibility, which will need years and a complete overhaul to rebuild."

The stock closed 1.82% up at ₹785.10 on the BSE on Thursday, as the bank said it was taking action against the guilty employees.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,952	-0.79
US Dollar	85.95	-0.42
Gold	98,650	0.20
Brent oil	64.04	-1.25

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2487.60	-12.80
Adani Ports	1371.40	-13.20
Apollo Hosp	6954.50	-29.50
Asian Paints	2299.20	-13.20
Axis Bank	1188.50	-9.30
Bajaj Auto	8733.50	46.00
Bajaj Finserv	2001.00	-36.30
Bajaj Finance	9139.00	-58.50
Bharat Elec	383.40	0.40
Bharti Airtel	1831.40	8.90
Cipla	1468.50	-13.90
Coal India	398.85	-6.50
Dr Reddys Lab	1222.20	-2.50
Eicher Motors	5387.00	-22.00
Eternal Ltd.	229.02	-0.95
Grasim Ind	2674.60	-32.30
HCL Tech	1633.00	-19.00
HDFC Bank	1919.90	-6.90
HDFC Life	755.85	-3.85
Hero MotoCorp	4276.30	12.50
Hindalco	649.55	-13.45
Hind Unilever	2330.70	-33.20
ICICI Bank	1442.10	-2.60
IndusInd Bank	785.00	15.05
Infosys	1547.50	-21.00
ITC	426.10	-6.90
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	274.55	0.20
JSW Steel	1005.60	4.70
Kotak Bank	2065.80	-5.50
L&T	3551.40	-37.60
M&M	3006.30	-84.40
Maruti Suzuki	12445.00	-170.00
NestleIndia	2361.70	-30.90
NTPC	341.40	-4.75
ONGC	241.67	-7.01
PowerGrid Corp	290.90	-5.25
Reliance Ind	1409.40	-19.80
SBI Life	1759.30	-4.60
State Bank	785.25	-1.85
Shriram Finance Ltd.	649.75	-8.25
Sun Pharma	1718.70	-13.10
TataConsumerProduct	1126.70	-12.10
Tata Motors	717.45	-9.35
Tata Steel	161.29	-0.35
TCS	3477.00	-48.80
Tech Mahindra	1565.60	-32.60
Titan	3541.00	-39.50
Trent Ltd.	5342.00	-101.50
UltraTech Cement	11680.00	14.00
Wipro	245.94	-4.98

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.80	86.12
Euro	96.89	97.26
British Pound	114.96	115.40
Japanese Yen (100)	59.74	59.96
Chinese Yuan	11.91	11.95
Swiss Franc	103.76	104.16
Singapore Dollar	66.41	66.67
Canadian Dollar	61.82	62.06
Malaysian Ringitt	20.06	20.17
Australian Dollar	55.05	55.26

Source:Indian Bank

Honda to invest ₹920 cr. to set up 4th assembly line

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India Private Ltd., Honda's motorcycle production and sales subsidiary in India, said it will build a fourth production line at its fourth plant in Ahmedabad district of Gujarat at an investment of ₹920 crore.

"The new line slated for production in 2028 will have an annual production capacity of 6,50,000 units, bringing total capacity of the fourth plant to 2.61 million units, making it Honda's largest assembly plant for Honda motorcycles in the world," Honda said. The announcement came on the occasion of Honda reaching global cumulative output milestone of 500 million two-wheelers from 1949 till today.

Adani Group posts record EBITDA of ₹90,000 cr. in FY25

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Adani Group's portfolio firms posted the highest-ever pre-tax profit (EBITDA) of about ₹90,000 crore in fiscal year ended March 31 and had a cash balance to cover 21 months of debt servicing, the ports-to-energy conglomerate said on Thursday.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation (EBITDA) more than tripled in six years – from ₹24,870 crore in 2018-19 to ₹89,806 crore in 2024-25 (April 2024 to March 2025).

EBITDA grew by 8.2% from ₹82,976 crore in FY24 to ₹89,806 crore in FY25, with a six-year (FY19-FY25) compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 24%.

Adani Group's net debt stood at ₹2.36 lakh crore in FY25.

Net profit for 2024-25 came in at ₹40,565 crore with six-year high CAGR of 48.5%.

Gross assets rose to ₹6,09,133 lakh crore, with a 6-year CAGR of over 25%.

The group gross debt rose to ₹2.9 lakh crore from ₹2.41 crore in FY24. After ₹53,843 crore cash balance, the net debt was ₹2.36 lakh crore in FY25.

Reliance Defence, Rheinmetall ink pact

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. promoted Reliance Defence Ltd. and Düsseldorf-based Rheinmetall AG have agreed on a tie up in the field of ammunition.

"An agreement to this effect has now been signed by the representatives of both companies," Reliance Infrastructure said in a statement. This marks the third major alliance for Reliance Defence, following its alliances with Dassault Aviation and the Thales Group of France, it said.

The collaboration will include supply of explosives and propellants for medium and large calibre ammunition to Rheinmetall by Reliance. Further, they plan to engage in joint marketing activities.

सेन्ट्रल माईन प्लानिंग एण्ड डिजाईन इन्स्टीट्यूट लिमिटेड
CENTRAL MINE PLANNING & DESIGN INSTITUTE LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Ltd.)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008, Jharkhand, India

NOTICE

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in/** respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, **www.cmpdi.co.in**), CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**."

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक: 1815 दिनांक- 02.05.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 04 वर्ष 2025-26
NIB No. PWD2526A0398

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **वेदनारायण बालक आवासीय विद्यालय, बाली (पाली) के भवन का निर्माण कार्य** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवम दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धि विवरण वेबसाईट **http:dipr.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http:sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http:eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया **http:eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2526WLOB01196
(नेमी चन्द शर्मा)
DIPR/C/6102/2025 अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर

Office of Chief Engineer (Administration), Public Health Engineering Department, Jal Bhawan, 2-Civil Lines Jaipur, Rajasthan
S. No. 5600-645 dated 08.05.2025
BID NOTICE 2025-26/02.03.04

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, PHED invites bids online in electronic format on website **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**. from manufacturers for Procurement of ISI Marked GI Pipes Medium Class 50-80mm conforming to IS 1239, (Part-1) :2004 (Amended/revised up to date), Procurement of ISI Marked Deep Well Hand Pump Standard (SDWP) Sets With 15 Connecting Rods (Conforming to IS 15500(Part 2):2021 (Amended/Revised Upto Date) & Procurement of ISI Marked Deep well Hand Pump-Extra Deep(EDWP) sets conforming to IS15500(Part 2):2021 (amended/revised up to Date) For details please visit website www.sppp.rajastan.gov.in & http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.

NIB Code: - PHE2526A0937
UBN Code:- SDWP:-PHE2526GLRC02028
EDWP:-PHE2526GLRC02033
GI Pipes (50-BOmm):-PHE2526GLRC02034
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT CIRCLE
DIPR/C/6299/2025 PHED RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–109/HIDCO/Admn-4362/2025 Date 20.05.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 9.00 ACRES (36422.50 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIIF/28 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / MIXED" USE PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4693] dtd. 20.05.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO.IIIF/28 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	9.00 Acres	30.06.2025	20.06.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA- T10172(4)/2025

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagitha Nagar, Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District, Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04332 - 261600.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Description of work	Due date
252623 000602	Procurement of Cationic Starch (Tapioca Based) for TNPL Unit - II.	09.06.2025
252623 000620	Procurement of CPAM (Powder / Liquid) for TNPL Unit - II.	09.06.2025
252623 000621	Procurement of Cooking Aid for Continuous Digester for Pulp Mill of TNPL Unit - II.	10.06.2025
252623 000623	Procurement of Clay No-1 (Spray Dried) for TNPL Unit - II.	09.06.2025
Email	252623000602 ; 0623 - purchaseimp.u2@tnpl.co.in 252623000620 ; 0621 - purchaserm.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/2450/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक: 1905 दिनांक: 07.05.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 05 वर्ष 2025-26
NIB No. PWD2526A0461

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **विभिन्न सड़क/पुल निर्माण कार्य** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र मे ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित विवरण वेबसाइट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http:eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाइन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन. संख्या निम्नानुसार है :—
1. PWD2526WSOB01390, 2. PWD2526WLOB01391, 3. PWD2526WLOB01392
4. PWD2526WLOB01393, 5. PWD2526WLOB01394, 6. PWD2526WSOB01395
7. PWD2526WLOB01396, 8. PWD2526WLOB01397
(नेमी चन्द शर्मा) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/6227/25 सा.नि.वि. प्रथम, जोधपुर

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–107/HIDCO/Admn-4360/2025 Date 20.05.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 1.034 ACRES (4184.54 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. II/OP-41 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / MIXED" USE PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4691] dtd. 20.05.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. II/OP-41 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	1.034 Acres	30.06.2025	20.06.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA- T10170(4)/2025

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012
IISc/CCMD/Tenders/2025-26 Date: 16.05.2025
Tender Notification- IISc/Tender-CIV-06/2025-26

Indian Institute of Science invites bids in two cover system through e-procurement platform **https://eprocure.gov.in**. Any specialized firms company registered under KPWD / CPWD/ railways/ MES/ central PSUs/ or any Government department of Class I/Class A Civil Contractors are eligible to apply for the work of **"Providing Parking Area, Road Widening, Landscaping and Horticulture including Electrical works to TCS X HUB Building at IISc, Bangalore"** Estimated Cost of Project is **Rs.4,10,90,876.10.** Last date of receipt of application is **05th June 2025 at 15:30Hrs.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the Centre for Campus Management & Development, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on all working days or e-mail **office.ccmd@iisc.ac.in**
Sd/-, Registrar

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012
IISc/CCMD/Tenders/2025-26 Date: 16.05.2025
Tender Notification- IISc/Tender-CIV-05/2025-26

Indian Institute of Science invites bids in two cover system through e-procurement platform **https://eprocure.gov.in**. Any specialized firms company registered under KPWD / CPWD/ railways/ MES/ central PSUs/ or any Government department of Class I/Class A Civil Contractors are eligible to apply for the work of **"Dismantling and Replastering of the External wall surface and Repairs to expansion joints, Plumbing lines etc in Chemical Science Building IISc, Bangalore"** Estimated Cost of Project is **Rs.3,11,29,685.78.** Last date of receipt of application is **05th June 2025 at 15:30Hrs**. Any other details can be obtained from the office of the Centre for Campus Management & Development, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on all working days or e-mail **office.ccmd@iisc.ac.in**
Sd/-, Registrar

KSIE KERALA STATE INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES LTD.
(A Government of Kerala Undertaking)
Thiruvananthapuram – 14, Phone: 0471-2326947
www.ksie.net, email: ksieltd@gmail.com
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

KSIE invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced manufacturers for the supply of plastic bottles for Kerala Soaps unit. Please send the proposals to infra.ksieltd@gmail.com. Last date of receipt of tender is 2.00 PM on 31.05.2025.
23.05.2025 MD, KSIE

KERALA SIDCO
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Dt.22.05.2025

Expression of Interest invited by Kerala SIDCO for Development of prime properties in Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram District(s) (Kadavanthra, Pachalam, Amaravila). Details available on **www.keralasidco.com**
Last Date of submission of EOI: **16.06.2025, 15.00 Hrs**. Tel.No. 0471-2330613/614
Sd/- Managing Director

Department of Culture Government of Madhya Pradesh
MADHYA PRADESH STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
Paryatan Bhawan, Bhadbhada Road, Bhopal-462003
Tel. : +91-755-4027100, 2774340, 42, Website : www.mpstdc.com
NIT No. : 817/SOO/ENG/MPSTDC/25 Dated : 21.05.2025
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
System Tender No. : 2025_STDC_425343_1

The Madhya Pradesh government is undertaking **'Ekatma Dham'** initiative at Omkareshwar to awaken the spirit of oneness across the world through the popularization of philosophy of **Shri Shankar Bhagwatpada.** As part of this project. A 108-feet tall multi-metal statue of Adi Shankaracharya, called the **'Statue of Oneness'** is established at Mandhata Hill. A museum called **'Advaita Lok'** based on the life and philosophy of Acharya Shankar will be developed. The **'Acharya Shankar International Institute of Advaita Vedanta'** will be established to promote the study, research, and dissemination of Advaita Vedanta philosophy.
Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation (MPSTDC) invites Online Tender from eligible Contractors, who fulfill the qualification criteria as stipulated in Tender Document for the work, "Engineering, Procurement & Construction and Operation & Maintenance Contract (Lump-Sum cum Item Rate) of "ADVAITA LOK (Acharya Shankar Museum Complex and Parking) (EPC-2)" at Omkareshwar, District Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, India,
Last date and Time for Online Tender Purchase and submission is **30 June 2025, 05:00 PM.** A Pre-bid meeting is scheduled to be held on **10th June 2025,** through Video conferencing. The detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded dt. **28th May 2025** onwards from website **https://mptenders.gov.in**
For any other information contact to be made to **Executive Engineer, Ekatma Dham Omkareshwar, Ph. No. +91-755-4027100, 2774340, 42** or E-mail at **ee.omkareshwar@mpstdc.com, pd.omkareshwar@mpstdc.in**
M.P. Madhyam/120232/2025 **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

GAZA CITY

At least 52 killed, dozens injured as Israel steps up military offensive

AP

Gaza officials said Israeli strikes had killed at least 52 people since dawn on Thursday across the territory, where Israel has ramped up its military offensive. There had been "52 martyrs and dozens injured as a result of air strikes carried out by the occupation in various areas of the Gaza Strip since dawn today," the said. AFP

BEIJING

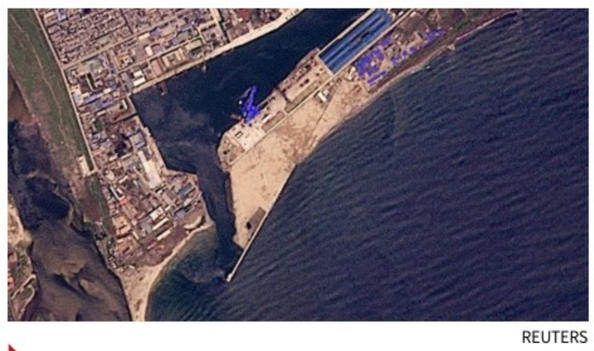
At least four persons killed and 17 trapped in China landslips

AP

At least four persons were killed in landslides while 17 remain trapped in southwestern China's Guizhou province on Thursday, with rescuers struggling to reach them in mountainous terrain. Two landslides occurred in separate parts of Dafang county, the first at around 3:00 a.m. and another at 9:00 a.m. AFP

SEOUL

N. Korea's second naval destroyer is damaged in a failed launch bid



REUTERS

North Korea's second naval destroyer was damaged in a failed launch this week, sparking fury from leader Kim Jong-un, who wants bigger warships to deal with what he calls escalating U.S.-led threats against his country. The incident occurred at the northeastern port of Chongjin on Wednesday. AP

MANILA

'China Coast Guard fired water cannon, sideswiped' Manila vessel'

AP

The Philippines fisheries bureau accused the China Coast Guard on Thursday of firing water cannon and sideswiping a Filipino government vessel while it collected sand for a research project. China and the Philippines have engaged in months of confrontations in the contested South China Sea. AFP

'No direct talks scheduled between Moscow, Kyiv'

Associated Press
MOSCOW

Russia and Ukraine have no direct peace talks scheduled, the Kremlin said on Thursday, nearly a week after their first face-to-face session since shortly after Moscow's invasion in 2022 and days after U.S. President Donald Trump said they would start truce talks "immediately."

"There is no concrete agreement about the next meetings," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. "They are yet to be agreed upon."

During two hours of talks in Istanbul on May 16, Kyiv and Moscow agreed to exchange 1,000 prisoners of war each. Apart from that step, the meeting delivered no significant breakthrough.

Children, elderly among 29 who died of hunger in Gaza

UN figure of 14,000 babies whose lives are at risk is a reality, and may be an underestimation, say Palestine officials; more than 90% of medical stocks now at zero due to Israel's blockade

Reuters
GENEVA

The Palestinian Health Minister said on Thursday that 29 children and elderly people had died from starvation-related deaths in Gaza in recent days and that many thousands more were at risk.

Food aid is expected to start reaching Gazans on Thursday after Israel let the first trucks through following an 11-week blockade, but Palestinian and aid officials say it is just a fraction of what is needed.

"In the last couple of days we lost 29 children," Palestinian Health Minister Majed Abu Ramadan told reporters, describing them as "starvation-related deaths". He later clarified that the total included elderly people as well as children. Asked to react to earlier comments by the UN aid chief to the BBC that 14,000 babies could die without aid, he said: "The number 14,000 is very realistic may be even underestimating (the scale)."

Facing starvation: Palestinian children wait in front of a hot meal distribution truck near Gaza City's port on Thursday. AFP

Israel imposed the blockade on all supplies in March, saying Hamas was seizing deliveries for its fighters – a charge the group denies. Earlier this month, a global hunger monitor said that half a million people in the Gaza Strip face starvation.

Abu Ramzan said that only seven or eight hospitals out of Gaza's 36 were partially functioning, and that more than 90% of medical stocks were now at zero due to the blockade.

Only flour for bakeries

"My information is that very few shipments went inside Gaza – 90-100 truck loads and in the south and mid zones." Asked if there are any medical supplies among them, he said: "As far as I know ...it's only flour for bakeries."

U.K. to hand sovereignty of Chagos Islands to Mauritius

Associated Press
LONDON

Britain signed an agreement on Thursday handing sovereignty over the contested and strategically located Chagos Islands to Mauritius, a move the government says ensures the future of a U.S.-U.K. military base that is vital to British security.

The Indian Ocean archipelago is home to a strategically important naval and bomber base on the largest of the islands, Diego Garcia. Under the deal, the U.K. will pay Mauritius £101 million ($136 million) per year to lease back the base for at least 99 years.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer said that base, operated by U.S. forces, is crucial for British counterterrorism and intelligence and is "right at the foundation of our safety and security at home."

Minor hiccup: The signing was delayed for several hours after a judge imposed a last-minute injunction blocking the transfer. AP

The signing was delayed for several hours after a U.K. judge imposed a last-minute injunction blocking the transfer. That was later lifted by another judge.

The judge granted an injunction in the early hours of Thursday, blocking the British government from taking any "conclusive or legally binding step" to hand the islands to a foreign government.

The injunction came in response to a claim by two Chagossian women representing the islands' original residents, who were evicted decades ago to make way for the American base. Both are British citizens who fear it will become even harder to return to their birthplace once Mauritius takes control of the islands.

'Army chief wants Bangladesh polls by December this year'

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Bangladesh's powerful Army chief has said the first elections since the country's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was ousted in a mass uprising should be held by December, local media reported and military sources confirmed on Thursday.

General Waker-Uz-Zaman was reported to have told officers on Wednesday that elections should be held by December this year – if not earlier, according to newspapers.

"Bangladesh is passing through a chaotic phase," Waker-Uz-Zaman said. "The situation is worsening by the day. The structure of the civil administration and law enforcement agencies has collapsed and failed to reconstitute."

No date has been set for elections but interim leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, has promised polls will be held by June 2026 at the latest.

On the draw

Trump blocks ability of Harvard to enrol foreign students

Reuters
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump revoked Harvard University's ability to enrol international students, the Department of Homeland Security said on Thursday.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem ordered the Department to terminate the Harvard University's Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) certification. The move means Harvard can no longer enrol international students and existing foreign students must transfer or lose their legal status, it said.

"This administration is holding Harvard accountable for fostering violence, anti-semitism, and coordinating with the Chinese Communist Party on its campus," Ms. Noem said. "It is a privilege, not a right, for universities to enrol foreign students and benefit from their higher tuition payments to help pad their multibillion-dollar endowments."

Court comes to the aid of U.S. Education Department

Reuters
BOSTON

A federal judge blocked U.S. President Donald Trump's administration from carrying out his executive order to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education and ordered it on Thursday to reinstate employees terminated in a mass lay-off. U.S. District Judge Myong Joun in Boston at the behest of a group of Democratic-led States, and teachers' unions issued an injunction.

Sport

Tottenham scrapes past Man United to end a 17-year title drought

EUROPA LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
BILBAO

Brennan Johnson's scrambled goal ended a 17-year Tottenham trophy drought with a battling 1-0 win over Manchester United in the Europa League final on Wednesday.

Spurs, which had not won European silverware since 1984, will play in next season's Champions League, while failing to qualify for it is a severe financial set-back for Manchester United. Despite its triumph in Bilbao, manager Ange Postecoglou's future is still on the line following a shambolic domestic campaign, with Spurs sitting a place below United in the lower reaches of Premier League table.

Over the moon: Skipper Son leads as Tottenham players celebrate a long-awaited trophy win. GETTY IMAGES

The Australian insisted he was "not a clown" on the eve of the final and had the last laugh on a nerve-racking night at the San Mames, as he made good on his claim to always win a trophy in his second season in charge of a club.

It was a match between teams languishing in 16th and 17th place respectively after dismal Premier League campaigns and that was the essence of it too, played at high intensity but with low confidence, and a prize on the line so big it overawed.

The result:

Tottenham 1 (Johnson 42) bt Manchester United 0.

Evergreen Joshna makes it to two finals

SQUASH

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Joshna Chinappa, the 19-time senior National women's champion, is going strong at 38 years. The way she has been playing at the ongoing National doubles championships proves that she has another year or two of squash left in her.

On Thursday, the multiple Commonwealth and Asian Games medallist, reached the National doubles finals in women's doubles, along with Anahat Singh (as the top seed), and mixed doubles with Velavan Senthilkumar (as the second seed).

"Velavan is really solid. So, it makes my job easier. And Anahat, on the forehand, is equally strong. That is a huge difference," said Joshna, at 106, the third-highest ranked Indian after Anahat (57) and Akansha Salunkhe (71).

Keeping an eye: Joshna watches Velavan hitting a return in the mixed doubles semifinal. R. RAGU

When asked whether she was looking forward to playing her fifth Asian Games in Japan next year, Joshna refused to be categorical. "I'll take it month-by-month based on what tournaments are coming up. My targets are the Nationals because that's the selection criteria for the Asian Games. Playing in the Games is definitely a possibility."

The results (semifinals):

Men: Abhay Singh & Velavan Senthilkumar bt Rahul Baitha & Suraj Chand 11-4, 11-3.
Guhan Senthilkumar & Ravi Dixit bt Abhay S. Vasudev & L. Meyyappan 11-2 11-4.
Women: Anahat Singh & Joshna Chinappa bt Nirupama Dubey & Shameena Riaz 11-10, 11-3; Pooja Arthi & S. Rathika bt Ananya Narayan & Anjali Semwal 11-6, 11-6.
Mixed: Abhay Singh & Anahat Singh bt Ravi Dixit & Janet Vidhi 11-6, 11-6.
Velavan Senthilkumar & Joshna Chinappa bt Sandhesh & Shameena Riaz 11-4, 11-4.

LIVE TELECAST

Ireland vs West Indies: 2nd ODI, FanCode, 3.15 p.m.
England vs Zimbabwe: Only Test, day 2, Sony Sports Ten 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 p.m.
IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
England Women vs West Indies Women: 2nd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 3 & LIV, 11 p.m.
LaLiga: FanCode, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

DOING HIS BIT

Shahrukh in sizzling form but Titans falter in a big chase

VIJAY SONEJI

GT's Shahrukh Khan gave LSG a scare with some lusty blows and was involved in a riveting 86-run stand with Sherfane Rutherford for the fourth wicket off just 6.4 overs. Shahrukh scored a 29-ball 57 with five fours and three sixes, but the target of 236 proved too steep for Shubman Gill's men.

REINFORCEMENT

RCB names Kiwi 'keeper-batter Seifert as replacement for Bethell

FILE PHOTO

Royal Challengers Bengaluru has signed New Zealand wicketkeeper-batter Tim Seifert to replace England's Jacob Bethell for the final leg of IPL 2025. Bethell is among several international players who will leave for national duties. Seifert, who has played 66 T20Is and has 1540 runs against his name, joins RCB for ₹2 crore.

MR. CONSISTENT

Prolific Root the quickest to scale Mt. 13,000 in the longest format

GETTY IMAGES

England's Joe Root became the fastest batter to reach 13,000 Test runs (153 matches), eclipsing Jacques Kallis' record (159), during his 44-ball 34 on day one of the one-off Test against Zimbabwe. Rahul Dravid (160), Ricky Ponting (162) and Sachin Tendulkar (163) follow in that order.

RAINING RUNS

Three centurions for England on day one against Zimbabwe

GETTY IMAGES

England amassed 498 for three — thanks to centuries from Ben Duckett, Zak Crawley and Ollie Pope — against Zimbabwe on day one of the one-off four-day Test in Nottingham on Thursday. **The scores:** England 498/3 in 88 overs (Crawley 124, Duckett 140, Pope 169 batting) vs Zimbabwe. **Toss:** Zimbabwe.

Marsh's explosive ton sets up Super Giants' comfortable win

The Australian puts on another fruitful opening partnership in the company of Markram and adds a century stand with Pooran; Titans fall short despite Rutherford and Shahrukh's fighting knocks; O'Rourke claims three for the visiting side

IPL-18

Santadeep Dey
AHMEDABAD

Mitchell Marsh and Nicholas Pooran, two shining specks for Lucknow Super Giants in its otherwise dull IPL 2025 campaign, did the bulk of the scoring as the already-eliminated side did the double on Gujarat Titans by 33 runs here on Thursday.

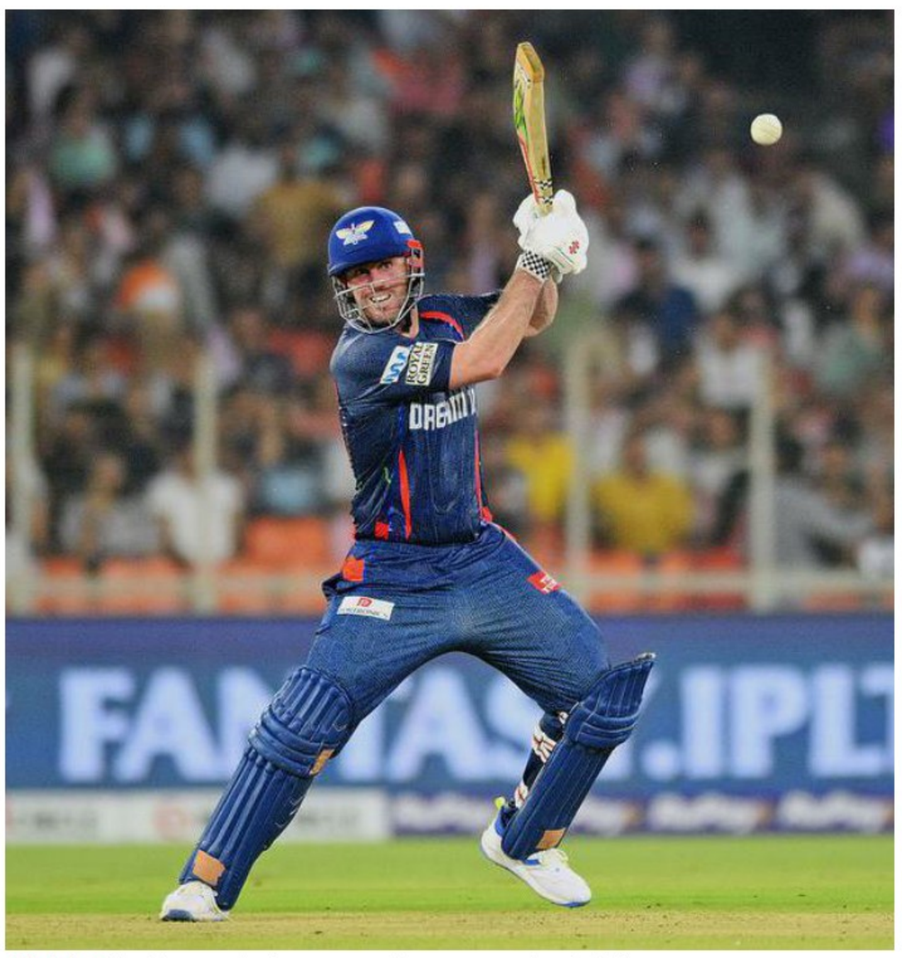
The defeat was a setback to Titans' hopes of finishing in the top two while Super Giants moved past Kolkata Knight Riders to sixth in the table.

Australian all-rounder Marsh became the first overseas player to score a hundred this season – off 56 balls – while Pooran contributed an unbeaten fifty of his own.

Titans, opting to bowl, did well to contain Marsh and Aiden Markram to 53 inside the PowerPlay at the Narendra Modi Stadium, where the average winning score this season has been 220. But Shubman Gill and Co. lost their grip thereafter.

The physio had a more expansive heat map than most GT players in the first six overs as he tended to injuries sustained by Arshad Khan, who slipped twice near the landing area, and Mohammed Siraj and Kagiso Rabada, who both were hit on the hand in their follow-through.

The first wicket came against the run of play in the 10th over as Markram holed out to M. Shahrukh Khan at long-off.



Blitzkrieg: Marsh became the first overseas player to score a hundred this season. VIJAY SONEJI

Rashid Khan's struggles were laid bare once again in the 12th over under the glaring lights of the largest cricket stadium in the world. The bloodbath was so graphic that a last-ball single from Marsh almost seemed like a mercy call in the 25-run over. When Marsh eventually fell in the 19th over, the damage had already been done.

In reply, Titans opener B. Sai Sudharsan staged a great escape in the second over when LSG did not go for a review after failing to spot that the southpaw was hit on the pad first. However, the free pass lasted only three more overs as the Orange Cap holder chipped a slower one from Will O'Rourke to Markram at mid-off.

In the 10th over, a largely untested Titans middle-order was left exposed after Akash Singh castled Buttler shortly after Gill departed.

While Sherfane Rutherford and Shahrukh's partnership momentarily did provide LSG a scare, it was never to be.

Next assignment

GT: May 25 vs CSK
Ahmedabad, 3.30 p.m.

LSG: May 27 vs RCB
Lucknow, 7.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Aiden Markram c Shahrukh b Sai Kishore 36 *(24b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Mitchell Marsh c Rutherford b Arshad 117 *(64b, 10x4, 8x6)*, Nicholas Pooran (not out) 56 *(27b, 4x4, 5x6)*, Rishabh Pant (not out) 16 *(6b, 2x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-2, nb-1, w-6): 10; Total (for two wkts. in 20 overs): 235.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-91 (Markram, 9.5 overs), 2-212 (Marsh, 18.2).

TITANS BOWLING
Siraj 4-0-37-0, Arshad 3-0-36-1, Rabada 4-0-45-0, Prasidh 4-0-44-0, Sai Kishore 3-0-34-1, Rashid 2-0-36-0.

GUJARAT TITANS
B. Sai Sudharsan **(Impact Player for Prasidh)** c Markram b O'Rourke 21 *(16b, 4x4)*, Shubman Gill c Samad b Avesh 35 *(20b, 7x4)*, Jos Buttler b Akash Singh 33 *(18b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Sherfane Rutherford c sub (Bishnoi) b O'Rourke 38 *(22b, 1x4, 3x6)*, M. Shahrukh Khan c sub (Bishnoi) b Avesh 57 *(29b, 5x4, 3x6)*, Rahul Tewatia c Himmat b O'Rourke 2 *(3b)*, Arshad Khan c O'Rourke b Shahbaz 1 *(3b)*, Rashid Khan (not out) 4 *(4b)*, Kagiso Rabada b Badoni 2 *(3b)*, R. Sai Kishore b Badoni 1 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-7): 8; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 202.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-46 (Sai Sudharsan, 4.3), 2-85 (Gill, 7.6), 3-96 (Buttler, 9.3), 4-182 (Rutherford, 16.1), 5-186 (Tewatia, 16.6), 6-193 (Arshad, 17.6), 7-197 (Shahrukh, 18.5), 8-200 (Rabada, 19.3), 9-202 (Sai Kishore, 19.6).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Akash Singh **(Impact Player for Marsh)** 3.1-0-29-1, Akash Deep 4-0-49-0, O'Rourke 4-0-27-3, Avesh 3.5-0-51-2, Shahbaz 4-0-41-1, Badoni 1-0-4-2.

Toss: Titans.
PoM: Marsh.
LSG won by 33 runs.

Royal Challengers eye a top-two finish as they meet Sunrisers

Centre of attraction: The focus will be on Kohli post his retirement from Test cricket. SANDEEP SAXENA

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
LUCKNOW

In 1925, Jack Hobbs' first innings at The Oval, after he'd passed W.G. Grace's record of 126 career centuries, he was greeted by spectators hurling their bowler hats in the air in an apparent tribute to the Surrey legend.

A century later, in the T20 franchise era, we saw cricket's tradition of public fan homage continue at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in the ongoing IPL last week. Spectators in white Test jerseys, figuratively tipping their hats off to a glorious Test career in a T20 match – that may be a first! The crowd may have felt bittersweet as rain dampened their celebration of Virat Kohli.

A greater tribute would be RCB winning the IPL trophy for Kohli. In a way, RCB, having qualified for the playoffs for the fifth time in six seasons, finds itself in the position of an escape artiste, who, having entered a strongbox blindfolded, handcuffed, and straitjacketed, faces the moment of truth. Can he pull off the trick? Can RCB finally win the title?

To give itself the best chance, RCB should try and finish in the top two in the league table. And that's what is at stake as it takes on Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Ekana Stadium here on Friday.

SRH comes off the high of completing a record successful chase (206) at the Ekana versus Lucknow Super Giants a few days ago.

RCB, on the other hand, will look to resume its winning habit after a week-long suspension of the league and an abandoned match.

Today's match

RCB vs SRH

Lucknow, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 24
RCB 11 | SRH 13

PREVIOUS MEETING
RCB won by 35 runs, 2024

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Alcaraz meets Nishikori in opener

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Carlos Alcaraz will begin his French Open title defence against Japan's Kei Nishikori as Iga Swiatek faces a difficult route to a fourth successive Roland Garros title after a year-long trophy drought.

Jannik Sinner takes on home hope Arthur Rinderknech in the World No. 1's first Grand Slam match since serving a three-month doping ban.

Novak Djokovic starts his latest quest for a record-setting 25th Major against American Mackenzie McDonald.

Swiatek will need to rediscover her best form to retain the Coupe Suzanne Lenglen following a troubled past 12 months.

The Pole, who has dropped to fifth in the world, is in the same quarter as last year's finalist Jasmine Paolini, former champion Jelena Ostapenko and 2022 Wimbledon winner Elena Rybakina.

Swiatek plays Slovakian Rebecca Sramkova in the first round before a possible meeting with Britain's Emma Raducanu, the 2021 US Open winner making just her second visit to Paris.

Naomi Osaka plays 10th seed Paula Badosa while eighth seed Qinwen Zheng takes on former finalist Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

Top first-round picks
Women: Osaka vs. Badosa
Rybakina vs. Bencic
Zheng vs. Pavlyuchenkova
Azarenka vs. Wickmayer
Men: Hurkacz vs. Fonseca
Zverev vs. Tien
Medvedev vs. Norrie
Alcaraz vs. Nishikori.

Gill front-runner for captaincy; Test squad to be announced tomorrow

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

India's new Test captain and his troupe for a crucial five-Test series in England will be announced on Saturday soon after the conclusion of the national selection committee's meeting.

Ever since Rohit Sharma announced his Test retirement on May 7 and Virat Kohli followed suit five days later, there has been intense speculation over the new captain and make-up of the squad that will set India on course for a transition in whites.

Chief selector Ajit Agarkar and his four colleagues are understood to have been involved in multiple rounds of discussion with themselves as well as head coach Gautam Gambhir. Despite Jasprit Bumrah – who led India in two of the five Tests in Australia, including the New Year's Test – being the logical choice, considering the pace spearhead's fitness and the need to invest in a long-term option, the selectors in consultation with Gambhir have all but zeroed in on a younger captain.

The favourite: Gill is tipped to be at the helm as the Indian team enters a transition phase. FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill are the two obvious choices in that regard, with Agarkar and Co. likely to give their nod to Gill.

Not only had Gill been elevated to ODI vice-captaincy but his composure and tactics have been appreciated by his teammates.

Besides the captaincy, the batting line-up will also be interesting. The selectors will have their task cut out to not only fill the void created by two stalwarts but also ensure that the squad can pose a serious challenge to England.

India's recent Test form has been miserable, which resulted in the team missing out on the World Test Championship final for the first time in three editions. While B. Sai Sudharsan is set to be inducted into the Test squad, it will be interesting to see if the selectors persist with Sarfaraz Khan – who didn't get a look-in Down Under.

It remains to be seen whether Mohammed Shami is included to complement Bumrah.

Shami couldn't recover in time for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, where Bumrah emerged as one-man pace machine before breaking down in the final Test at the SCG.

Coulthard hails Piastri, backs him to clinch drivers' crown this year

FORMULA ONE

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Former Formula One driver and TV commentator David Coulthard praised Oscar Piastri and backed the Australian for this year's driver's title.

Piastri, driving for McLaren, has won four out of the seven races and is leading the championship by 13 points ahead of teammate Lando Norris.

"McLaren and especially Oscar Piastri have been very impressive. It looked like Lando had the upper hand over him last year, but Oscar, aided by my old teammate Mark Webber (Piastri's manager), is the one who stepped up the most from last year," said Coulthard ahead of this weekend's Monaco Grand Prix. "I think that unless there's a major change in the performance of the cars, McLaren has the upper hand, and therefore, it's for those two drivers to slug it out. And so far, it's advantage, Oscar."

Fast lane: Former F1 driver Coulthard said Piastri had improved his qualifying performances. REUTERS

The 13-time Grand Prix winner also hailed Piastri's progress in improving his qualifying performance.

"Oscar was a little bit, tenth or so away on average in qualifying. That tenth is a huge amount in this sport.

"And he's understood, I guess, a combination of how to make the Pirellis work and exploit the car's performance in qualifying," he added.

While Piastri and Norris are fighting it out, reigning champion Max Verstappen is not far off, just nine points adrift in the standings.

The Dutchman showed how dangerous he can still be in a car that is not as quick as McLaren when he snatched the lead from Piastri on the opening lap in Imola last weekend and won the race.

"Max, of course, has been phenomenal, and, you know, how he seized control of the race in Imola for me was confirmation of why he is the world champion. I think he is the driver of this generation right now," remarked Coulthard.

(FanCode is the official broadcaster for F1 in India).

INBRIEF

Mhatre to lead India u-19 squad to England next month

Ayush Mhatre was on Thursday named captain of the India u-19 team for the tour of England, with 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi finding a place in the squad. The tour, scheduled to begin on June 24, will include a 50-over warm-up match, followed by a five-match youth one-day series and two multi-day matches against England u-19.

The squad: Ayush Mhatre (Capt.), Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Vihaan Malhotra, Maulyarajsinh Chavda, Rahul Kumar, Abhigyan Kundu (vice-capt. & WK), Harvansh Singh (WK), R.S. Ambrish, Kanishk Chouhan, Khilan Patel, Henil Patel, Yudhajit Guha, Pranav Raghavendra, Mohammed Enaan, Aditya Rana, Anmoljeet Singh. **Standbys:** Naman Pushpak, D. Deepesh, Vedant Trivedi, Vikalp Tiwari, Alankrith Rapole (WK).

Indian boys beat Indonesia in Junior Davis Cup

India beat Indonesia 2-0 in the positional play-off for the ninth to 16th place in the Asia-Oceania Junior Davis Cup under-16 boys tennis tournament in Shymkent on Thursday.

The results (9th place positional play-off): India bt Indonesia 2-0 (Prateek Sheoran bt Rafa Manguinsong 6-2, 1-6, [10-6]; Tavish Pahwa bt Joachim Gunawan 6-3, 6-3).

Raiza wins women's skeet silver in Junior World Cup

Raiza Dhillon won the women's skeet silver, after being beaten 53-51 by Phoebe Bodley-Scott of Britain, in the Junior World Cup in Suhl on Thursday.

The results: Skeet: Junior women: 1. Phoebe Bodley-Scott (GBr) 53 (116), 2. Raiza Dhillon 51 (116), 3. Annabella Hettmer (Ger) 38 (116). **10m mixed air pistol:** 1. China (Jin Bohan, Zhang Yingtao) 16 (579), 2. Ukraine (Yulia Isachenko, Maksym Himon) 14 (576), 3. Italy (Alessandra Fait, Francesco Rutigliani) 16 (576); 5. India (Urva Chaudhary, Chirag Sharma) 576.

Sachin wants to conquer the world

The javelin thrower will spearhead the Indian challenge in his maiden international outing at the Asian Athletics Championships

Aiming high: Sachin, who created a meet record at the 38th National Games, is ready to spread his wings. FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

ATHLETICS

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

Javelin thrower Sachin Yadav is keen to make a winning start to his international career at the the upcoming Asian Athletics Championships in Korea. The tall, powerfully built 25-year-old, the second-best in the country behind Neeraj Chopra since 2024, will be spearheading India's challenge.

With a personal best of 84.39m this year, Sachin's main target is to qualify for the World Championships (85.50m).

"I will try to do that first, then we will see whatever distance I can manage. But my competition is always only with myself, I never target a specific distance in competition, only try to keep getting better," he said during an interaction here on Thursday.

Often compared to Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem for the similarity in their physique, Sachin will be up against the Paris Olympics champion but insisted he wasn't thinking about it.

"He is an Olympic champion and a record holder, so obviously it is great motivation. But comparisons don't affect me, they only push me to do better – stronger the opponent, bigger the challenge. I never feel overwhelmed or scared by names," he declared.

"Technique is the most important thing in javelin. You have to maintain overall strength, posture, explosive power because even the smallest of variation – in your arm, leg, body, head position – can mean a difference of 3-4m.

Hard work and focus

"The only way to ensure consistency is to work hard, maintain focus and trust your body and mind. It's when you try to do something drastically different for strength or stamina that problems and injuries start," he shrugged.

Govt. enhances support for sports

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

The Union Sports Ministry has revised the grant for National sports federations with an eye on strengthening the sports ecosystem across the country.

Making the announcement on Thursday, the Union Sports Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, said that the grant for conducting National championships in high-priority sports has been increased from ₹51 lakh to ₹90 lakh.

It will be ₹75 lakh for priority sports. The financial support for hosting international tournaments has been doubled from ₹1 crore to ₹2 crore.

Similarly, the monthly salary for the Chief National coach has been increased from ₹5 lakh to ₹7.5 lakh. The salary for other coaches has been revised from ₹2 lakh to ₹3 lakh. The diet allowance for athletes has been increased from ₹690 to ₹1000 per day, and for juniors, it has been revised from ₹480 to ₹850.

The Minister emphasised that the National sports federations would get the best support from the Government, but they should devote 20% of their annual budget towards junior and youth development.

The Government has sought the National federations with an annual budget of more than 10 crore to have a High Performance Director (HPD) who will design and monitor the technical development for the sport.

Equally, the accredited sports academies will get support from the Government for having coaches and technical staff.

Srikanth in quarterfinals

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
KUALA LUMPUR

Kidambi Srikanth entered the quarterfinals of Malaysia Masters after defeating Ireland's Nhat Nguyen in his second-round matc here on Thursday.

Srikanth prevailed 23-21, 21-17 in the 59-minute showdown against world number 33 Nguyen.

The results (pre-quarters):
Men: K. Srikanth bt Nhat Nguyen (Ire) 23-21, 21-17; Yushi Tanaka (Jpn) bt H.S. Prannoy 21-9, 21-18; Toma Popov (Fra) bt Ayush Shetty 21-13, 21-17, Christo Popov (Fra) bt Sathish Karunakaran 21-14, 21-16.

Women: Doubles: Hsu Yin-Hui & Lin Jhih Yun (Tpe) bt Prerana Alvekar & Mrunmayee Deshpande 21-9, 21-14.

Mixed doubles: Dhruv Kapila & Tanisha Crasto bt Julien Maio & Lea Palermo (Fra) 21-17, 18-21, 21-15.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Dhinidhi carries on with her good show

Dhinidhi Desinghu added two more individual gold medals on the second day of the State Senior Aquatic Championship in Bengaluru on Thursday.

Dhinidhi won the women's 50m freestyle and the 200m freestyle events, the latter in a new meet record time of 2:06.22s, bettering her own previous best mark of 2:06.38 from 2023.

The other records on the day were set by S. Thanya in women's 200m breaststroke (2:43.13) and Aneesh S. Gowda in men's 200m freestyle (1:52.41). Thanya also clinched the 200m IM in a time of 2:28.81s.

Swastic Union (2) enters semifinals

N.V. Pranav's four-wicket haul (4/16) helped Swastic Union (2) beat Sir Syed Cricketers by 29 runs and enter the semifinals of the KSCA T20 tournament for the G. Kasturirangan Memorial Trophy.

The scores (quarterfinals):
Swastic Union (2) 195/4 in 20 overs (Md. Taha 50, Aneeshwar Gautam 54 n.o., B. Vijaya Raj 39) bt Sir Syed Cricketers 166/9 in 20 overs (B.A. Mohith 87, Monish Reddy 45, N.V. Pranav 4/16).

Rajajinagar Cricketers 149/8 in 20 overs (Nihal Ullal 28, S. Shivaraj 38, R.V. Nikhil Vedanth 25 n.o., N. Samarth 3/46) bt Vijaya 142 in 19.3 overs (Abul Hasan Khalid 55, V. Koushik 3/20).

Social Cricketers 194/9 in 20 overs (S. Aadarsh Prajwal 74, Sourab Muttur 35, S. Vignesh 3/26, J. Manoj Kumar 3/32) bt The Bangalore Cricketers 98 in 17.1 overs (Vinayak Holla 29, Anmol Mathur 3/18).

Mount Joy 145/8 in 20 overs (Chirag R. Nayak 27, Adithya Nair 3/22) bt Vultures 86 in 15.1 overs (Goutham Mishra 3/19).